



PHOTOS BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Chase Cornett (top) and Kristin Helmink (bottom) wait anxiously for the announcement of Student Senate election results. After defeating Helmink by 168 votes, Cornett was ceremoniously sworn in as student body president by outgoing president Emily Dix.

Cornett seals presidency

Senate member's victory ends decade-long reign of female presidents

By SARAH SWEDBERG
CHIEF REPORTER

With a quiet demeanor and a grin etched on his face, Student Senate's new president raised his right hand to take the oath of office.

With Chase Cornett's simple gesture, he ended the 10-year reign

of female Senate presidents.

"I'm really excited," Cornett said. "I'm looking forward to a great year."

Along with Cornett's win, his entire campaign ticket prevailed with the election of Derek Gillespie as vice president, Sarah Barmann as secretary and Kim Cline as treasurer.

Student Senate Presidential opponent Kristin Helmink said even though she has not decided whether or not to stay involved with Senate, she's excited for all the elected Senators.

"I'm very happy for Chase and I have no doubt in my mind that

he'll do a great job," Helmink said. "Senate is in great hands next year and I'm looking forward to what they will accomplish."

Out of 6,574 students, 1,320 voted in the Student Senate elections.

With 627 votes, students chose Cornett over Helmink, who received 459 votes. Gillespie's 571 votes gave him enough to take vice president over Kamille Burrell, who had 450 votes. Barmann was the only candidate running for secretary, receiving 1,018 votes. Cline claimed the treasurer's seat with 629 votes over Matt Moncivais who had 378 votes.

Both sick to his stomach until he heard his name and excited about winning the vice president position, Gillespie said the time and money he spent campaigning with his ticket was well worth the outcome.

"It was a very busy and expensive time," Gillespie said.

Overall, Gillespie said his campaign ticket spent approximately \$400.

Speaking to students in residents halls and at campus organizations, a Web site, posters and a banner, e-mails, cards and pencils gave the winning ticket the votes they

(Please see 'Chase' page A9)

Northwest students pass newly-revised activities fee

Activities fee passes, awaits approval from President's Cabinet, Board of Regents

By SARAH SWEDBERG
CHIEF REPORTER

Northwest students have approved the activities fee twice and now the President's Cabinet and the Board of Regents must approve it.

"I hope they pass it and pass it quickly," Student Senator Leon

Harden said. "The community is starving for activities and bigger events that it is lacking right now, and I wish they could pass it now in time for the fall."

Students supported the fee with 619 votes, while 571 of them voted against the fee. The Student Activities Fee gained 307 more votes last week than the first vote in March.

Overall, 1,190 students voted through WebSTAR in comparison to the 883 students who cast their e-mail ballots during the first vote.

Although the second vote had a 48 vote margin, Student Senator Sarah Barmann said she supports the

fee but thinks the second vote was too close. She believes more discussion is needed.

But Senators, like Eric Willis, who made the motion to pass the fee, disagreed, saying enough work has been done, students support the fee and Senate needs to support the fee.

"I think we should have passed the activities fee the first time," Harden said. "I would have paid the \$50."

After listening to students' suggestions and concerns, the Senate Activities Fee Committee changed the amount of the fee. It also publicized the activities fee more ef-

fectively.

"(Senate) waited until a second vote to pass the fee, because some people didn't think the fee was done correctly the first time," Harden said. "So we made corrections to the fee to restore student faith in the fee and in Senate."

Student Senate will present the Student Activities Fee proposal to the President's Cabinet next fall.

If the Board of Regents approves the fee, full-time students enrolled in 12 hours or more will pay \$25 per trimester. All part-time students taking 11 hours or fewer will fee will

(Please see 'Students' page A9)

Local resident faces child abuse charges

Nodaway County resident faces charges for allegedly abusing 7-month-old girl

By AARON BAILEY
COMMUNITY NEWS EDITOR

A local man faces four counts of felony assault charges after he allegedly abused a 7-month-old girl, breaking her leg, hand, three ribs and causing two skull fractures.

Michael Farnan, Guilford, was arrested on April 1, the same day the warrant for his arrest was filed. Later that day a member of Farnan's family posted the \$50,000 bond and he was released.

The Nodaway County Sheriff's Department was notified of the possible abuse by Family Services after the infant was treated at St. Francis Hospital for the injuries. According to Nodaway County Sheriff Ben Espey, the investigation is on-

going but doubts additional charges will be filed.

"This is certainly not a closed case," he said. "Right now we're just building the case for the prosecutor."

The alleged abuse of the infant, who is the daughter of Farnan's wife or girlfriend, occurred between Oct. 1, 2003 and Nov. 30, 2003.

Farnan faces class A and class C felony assault charges stemming from incidents occurring from Oct. 1, 2003 and Nov. 23, 2003 when Farnan is accused of assaulting the 7-month-old, causing a broken leg and three broken ribs. On Nov. 30, 2003, Farnan again allegedly assaulted the girl causing two skull fractures and a broken hand, resulting in two additional class A and class C felony charges.

According to special prosecuting attorney David Parman, the maximum penalty for a class A felony assault is 30 years in jail. The maximum penalty for a class C felony charge is seven years in jail.

Farnan is scheduled to appear in Nodaway County Division II Circuit Court at 9 a.m. April 27.

Frisbee Fanatics



PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Northwest freshman Matt Todd passes the time by throwing a Frisbee to a friend in front of the Union. Todd and his friends were waiting to watch the sunset Tuesday.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CAPITAL RELATIONS
State Rep. Brad Lager expresses his support for the merger at Wednesday's hearing. Lager was accompanied by President Dean Hubbard and UM system President Elson Floyd.

Lager: 'This merger is the right thing to do'

State representative supports Northwest administrators at general assembly hearing

By PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR

JEFFERSON CITY, Mo.— State Rep. Brad Lager told approximately 60 legislators, administrators, students and faculty Wednesday that he fully supports the proposed merger with the University of Missouri system.

"I believe if we receive every-

thing promised (by the UM system), this merger is the right thing to do," Lager told the Higher Education Committee in front of a standing-room-only crowd in the capitol meeting room.

Enrollment standards and tuition are two of the things that have been promised, Lager said.

"If the University of Missouri adopts those policies, then I do support the merger," Lager reaffirmed after the hearing.

During the two-hour hearing, Northwest President Dean Hubbard and UM system President Elson Floyd testified, as did five

others.

Faculty Senate President Mike Wilson, Support Staff President John Viau, Student Senate Representative Dan Ayers and Chuck Place, incoming President of the Northwest Foundation testified for the merger, while Quentin Wilson, President of the Coordinating Board for Higher Education, provided an informational testimony. Nobody testified against the merger.

"We're the only industry that can expand on the region we serve and help regional development," Hubbard told the committee.

Hubbard was later asked by a

committee member about student support from the merger and the results of the Student Senate-sponsored vote during the week of March 29.

"(There can be) a little bit of frustration there," Hubbard said. "Trying to answer everyone's questions, quite honestly, can be a delinquent task to deal with."

Ayers tried submitting that the vote on the merger occurred before Lager released his comprehensive document. That document outlines the questions he has received from constituents and includes in-depth explanations.

"I'm betting the focus of the

(Please see 'State' page A9)



PHOTO BY RILEY HUSKEY/COPY EDITOR

Ann Rowlette, associate professor of family and consumer sciences, is congratulated by friends and colleagues Wednesday at the faculty retirement recognition ceremony. The ceremony honored five faculty members with a combined 135 years of service.

University honors retiring professors

By RILEY HUSKEY
COPY EDITOR

Cumulating more than 1,112 sections of classes, 1,946 posted office hours, 4,132 hours of advisement and teaching more than 30,024 Bearcats, five faculty members said farewell.

In a faculty retirement recognition ceremony held Wednesday, Provost Taylor Barnes had a few words to say about the soon-to-be faculty emeritus.

"These are the faculty that have made Northwest what it is," Barnes said. "We wouldn't be receiving our national quality recognitions if it weren't for the faculty you see here today."

Retiring this year are Russ Northup, assistant professor of marketing and management, Ann Rowlette, associate professor of family and consumer sciences, Russ Schmaljohn, assistant professor of art, Alfred Sergel, assistant professor of music and David Slater, professor of English.

Each of the retirees recognized were

presented by a fellow colleague or friend and were then invited to speak about their accomplishments, hardships and stories they've experienced while at Northwest.

Northup gave 14 years of service to Northwest and among his many achievements and awards are the Teacher of the Year in the College of Business, 1992-93, and the Dean's Award for Service and Tower Service Award in 1997.

Sergel retires after 23 years of service and has shown his commitment through ensemble conducting, directing freshman seminar four consecutive years and winning a Tower Service Award in 1998.

Rowlette, who served Northwest for 33 years, had this to say regarding the gift her fellow retirees chose to receive from the University.

"You see, all these guys up here chose rocking chairs as their gifts, but I chose a straight back (chair) because I don't care to rock in my retirement days," she said.

Schmaljohn has had 35 years of service at Northwest and was attributed with

the MACE Award for Teaching in 1985.

Beth Richards, chairperson of the department of English, described Slater as a trendsetter—he was first to sport the "muller" hairdo in a 1970s *Tower* yearbook. After his catchphrases were pointed out by Richards, like "I'm off to learn the students" and "study hard to pass," Slater spoke and received rolling laughter from the audience.

Barnes summed up Northwest's thanks and gratitude with one brief message.

"No one will ever quite know how many individuals our retirees have positively impacted to pursue their dreams and aspirations," Barnes said. "And no one will know exactly how much encouragement and nurturing that they gave contributed to the success of our graduates. However, we do know that our retirees here this afternoon have certainly demonstrated their unselfishness, their devotion, their care and their concern for our entire Northwest family."

Northwest applies for Baldrige again

By SARAH SWEDBERG
CHIEF REPORTER

Northwest is reapplying to receive national recognition for its Culture of Quality.

Since 1999, the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award has recognized institutions for their achievements in quality and performance. Only one higher education institution, the University of Wisconsin-Stout, has won the award. Northwest is seeking to become the second.

Administrators hope to have a second site visit this year after having its first site visit during last year's unsuccessful bid.

"As you go through the hierarchy of reviews, it would be a disappointment if you didn't get a site visit," said Dave Oehler, director of Assessment, Information and Analysis. "I certainly expect we

will have a second site visit this year."

Northwest has until May 27 to apply. If the application successfully makes it to Phase II, the next stage is a site visit the last week of October. Baldrige winners are then notified in late November or early December.

"The main reason we apply is for the process methods that come out of it," Baldrige Coordinator Paul Klute said. "Every time we apply we get some very meaningful feedback."

After receiving the Baldrige report in December, administrators and employees have been working reverently on making improvements to the University.

Suggestions from the 50-page Baldrige report noted that Northwest needed to improve in the areas of community interaction, knowledge management, career paths and comparative data

results.

The most noticeable change, Klute said, is the modification in the service Human Resources provides for student employees.

"The Baldrige report suggested to Northwest the importance of having career pathing," Klute said. "Human Resources is working with a marketing and research group to find a model to implement."

Right now, nine category chairs will continue to make their final revisions to the 2004 application. President Dean Hubbard, consultant John Politti and Klute will read through them before sending the application out in May.

"The application for the most part is basically the same as last year's, but there have been some improvements, changes and updates to this year's application," Klute said.

Suicide prevention forum educates students

By STEPHANIE STANGL
CHIEF REPORTER

With finals week being one of the most stressful times for college students and the tragic occurrences in the past few months, one information session came in the nick of time.

April Haberyan and Jackie Kibler of the department of psychology, sociology and counseling prepared and presented an informational meeting entitled "Suicide Prevention" Wednesday night in the Union boardroom.

"One of the reasons that Dr. Haberyan and I decided to do this presentation is because of all the attention in the media from the events that have happened on campus," Kibler said. "We are bombarded with the information but not really told how we can deal with the problem."

In an attempt to present ways that suicide can be dealt with, Haberyan elaborated on the intentions and goals of the session.

"We want to clarify some things a little bit," Haberyan said. "Mostly, what we are going to do is provide you with some information about the myths and some simple things you can do to help your friends stay safe."



PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Assistant professor April Haberyan addresses myths about suicide Wednesday night. Haberyan expressed shock at the fact more people die each year as a result of suicide than homicide.

Haberyan and Kibler included in their presentation that suicide is the second leading cause of death among college-aged students and suicide rates have tripled in the last 50 years.

"I attribute this increase to the increase in mental illness, substance abuse and aggression in students," Kibler said. "I also question right now with the war in Iraq if (suicide because

of aggression) isn't going to go up even more."

The pair also explored the risk and precipitating factors that make a person more susceptible to suicide and modes of prevention.

"These statistics are startling, I know," Kibler said. "But our intent is not to scare you, but to present you with the facts so you know where we are right now."



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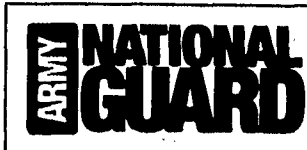
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YOU CAN

St. Louis poet to visit campus

National award-winning published poet Mary Jo Bang to share insights of poetry with Northwest students and faculty tonight

By BURNEA COTHRINE
MISSOURIAN REPORTER



MARY JO BANG

A prize-winning poet from St. Louis will recite the best of her collection tonight.

Mary Jo Bang, an assistant professor of English at Washington University in St. Louis, writes poetry about life.

Northwest faculty says Bang's visit will be a wonderful opportunity for students.

"I expect to get a sense of her poetry," said Kelly Peterson, senior English major. "Having a poet give another perspective brings the poetry to life."

Not only are Northwest students excited about Bang's arrival, but faculty have expressed their interest as well.

"Being in the presence of art is an awesome experience," said John Gallaher, assistant professor of English. "She is a poet and she has come to share her poetry."

Bang's poetry is recognized throughout the nation. She has won the 1996 Bakeless prize, the 1998 Great Lakes Colleges Association New Writers Award and a Pushcart prize.

"We often go to classes where poetry is taught," Gallaher said. "Nevertheless, it is actually different when we have a living embodiment of art."

According to Gallaher, her poetry works with language on a fundamental level and her words can come across a little mysterious.

"Her poetry is a form of secular spiritualism," Gallaher said. "Especially when you are around a poet that uses a form of language to the extent where it explores the depths of life."

Bang's poetry has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New Republic*, *Volts*, *Fence* and *The Denver Quarterly*. She has written several poetry books and is completing her new book, "The Eye Like a Strange Balloon," that will be published in the fall.

"She is one of my favorites," Gallaher said. "Her words matter so much that I think people will leave with a gourmet of emotions because it's quite meditative and thoughtful."

Bang will read in the Ballroom of the J.W. Jones Student Union at 7:30 p.m. For additional information, call the English Department at 562-1268.

Driving into the lane

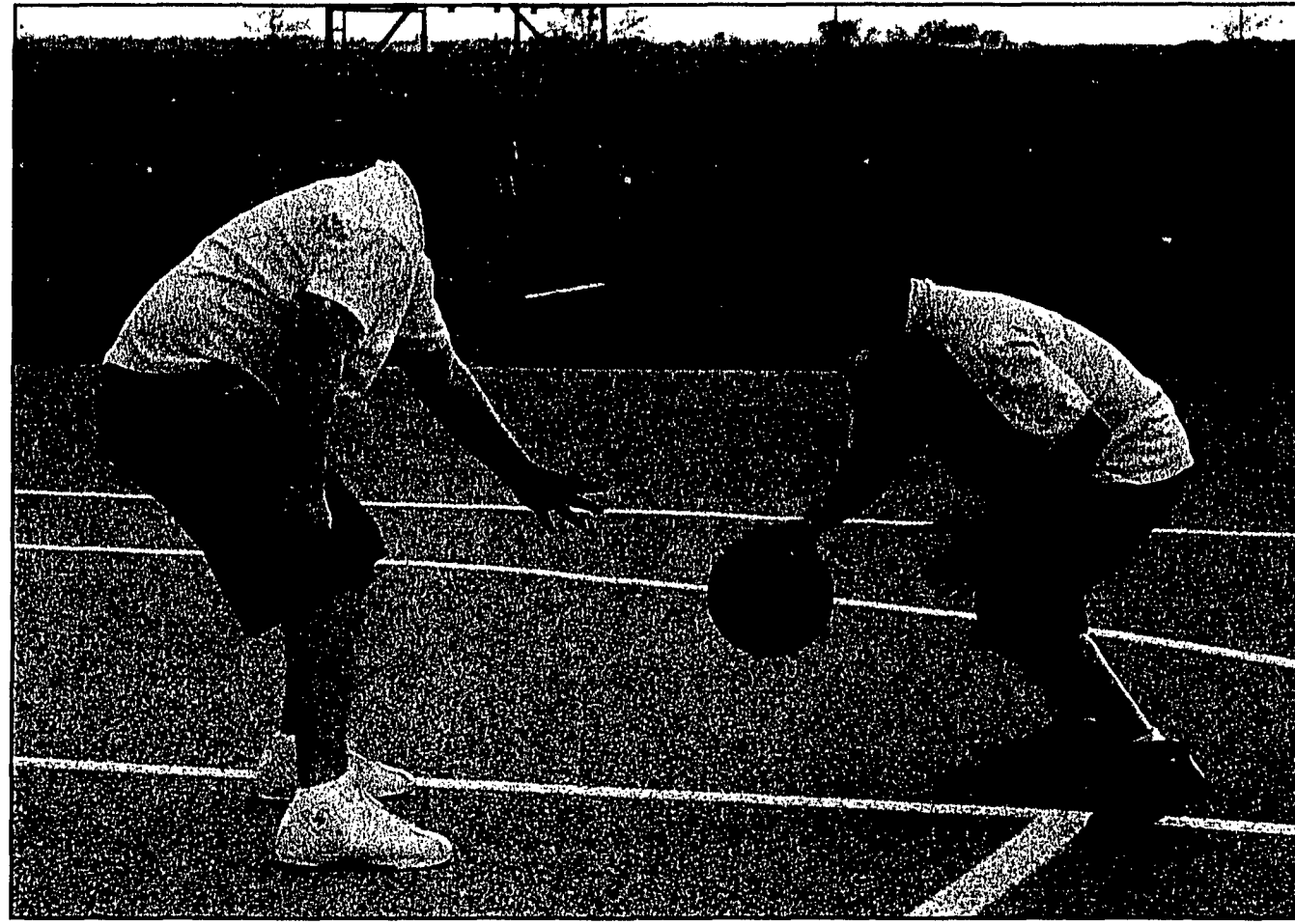


PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Carlos Rivera and Alex Villalobos take advantage of Tuesday's brief period of sunshine while playing one-on-one basketball on the courts south of the high rises. The two have been staying in Maryville while working on the continuing construction throughout campus.

University events

Thurs	22	■ Peer Education meetings/training
		■ RHA Awards Banquet, 6 p.m.
Fri	23	■ Art Club Pottery Sale, 4-8 p.m., Fine Arts ceramic room
		■ Northwest Celebration Spring Show, 8 p.m., Mary Linn Auditorium
Sat	24	■ Art Club Pottery Sale, 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., Fine Arts ceramic room
Sun	25	■ Wind Symphony/Symphonic Band Concert, 3 p.m., Mary Linn Auditorium
Mon	26	■ Finals Week begins
Tues	27	■ Finals Week
Wed	28	■ Finals Week

If you would like to have your event published, please call 562-1224 or e-mail aballey@missourianonline.com.

Northwest students prepare for spring graduation

By JESSICA EAGEN
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Students will gather together and toss their caps in celebration of their hard work at Northwest.

On Saturday May 1, two graduation ceremonies will be held at Northwest. The first will begin at 10 a.m. and includes the Booth College of Business and Professional Studies, as well as graduate degrees. The second ceremony will follow at 2 p.m. with

the College of Arts and Sciences and the College of Education and Human Services.

Commencement coordinator Gina Bradley said she is excited about the graduation keynote speaker Pat Cafferata, a Chicago advertising executive.

"She's a wonderful speaker who motivates students to do whatever they want to with their lives," Bradley said.

Cafferata is a 1969 Northwest graduate with a bachelor's degree in home economics. Beginning with an entry level

position, she worked her way up to president and CEO of Young and Rubicam, a multinational advertising agency in Chicago. According to Bradley, Cafferata's purpose is to illustrate the possibilities of the future that come with determination and a college degree. Students agree.

"Graduation is not just about a new beginning, but the end of a college career," senior accounting major and upcoming graduate Katie Waigand said.

"There are some people that choose not to walk at commencement, but I think

it's part of saying thank you and goodbye to all those who helped along the way."

Bradley said that commencement is a time to celebrate with all those who support students throughout their college career. Immediately following each ceremony, there will be a reception on the lawn by Colden Pond. Friends and family members are invited to attend.

"College is fun, but I look forward to closing this chapter of my life and celebrating it by walking at graduation and sharing that experience with my family and friends," Waigand said.

Last call.

The Safe Ride Home van will be available for one last weekend before the spring trimester ends. Over the summer months, please make sure you find a designated driver or alternate means home.

Last dates available: Friday & Saturday, April 23 & 24



562-1245

This pilot program will be evaluated and possibly will be continued in the fall trimester.

NORTHWEST
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Our View

Merger: take two

As the merger issue continues with Wednesday's House hearing, Northwest administrators would be wise to wait

After more than a year of debate about whether or not Northwest should join the University of Missouri system, things are far more different than they were two months ago.

In the Feb. 19 issue, *The Missourian* adamantly opposed the merger, citing that it has gone too fast and pushed too aggressively. In doing so, we opposed the merger 100 percent.

Since that time, Student Senate has sponsored a forum with State Rep. Brad Lager as well as a recent vote on WebSTAR regarding the merger. Both Lager and State Sen. David Klindt have aided in answering questions pertaining to the proposed change.

One thing that has not happened since that time, however, is action, or lack thereof, taken by the administration with regards to the results from the WebSTAR vote—nearly 70 percent of the students opposed it.

Granted, only 19 percent of the student population voted, but that does not mean a person can just ignore that population of people who logged on to vote.

And while merger talks are continuing in Jefferson City and we have seen information that leads us to believe the merger may be a good thing in one or two years; at this point and time we still oppose passing the merger this session.

President Dean Hubbard told *The Missourian* last week that if the merger does not pass this session, he will drop it completely. This tactic raises the proverbial red flag because it appears that he is simply applying pressure to legislators in Jefferson City.

Legislators should just vote on the merger at this point and not worry about what Hubbard and UM system President Elson Floyd are going to do if it does not pass.

And while it appears as if some senators and representatives are uninformed about the merger, the administration has failed to win over the student body.

The question needs to be asked: If students are against the merger, why are administrators still pressing for it this session? Wouldn't it make more sense for Hubbard to come to a Student Senate-sponsored forum, just like the one Lager participated in?

In the Feb. 19 editorial, we also urged Student Senate to get involved in gauging students' opinions. They've done that. Now all Senate can do is relay their findings to Lager and Klindt, and represent a student voice in Jefferson City.

Overall, the questions that have been answered by Lager make sense. The merger has some promise in the future. But not now. Lager told *The Missourian* last week that the merger has a better chance of getting passed next session because of the climate that has been created since the proposed Southwest Missouri State University name change failed.

So why not try again next session? If the merger is good now, why would that change in a few months?

Let it be said that Hubbard has done a superb job as president of Northwest. The Electronic Campus and the Culture of Quality awards are a compliment to his leadership skills. He's always made the right decisions for Northwest in the past. The students have spoken.

Now the ball is in his court.



Missourian Backtalk
562-1980

"After reading the Public Safety reports for several weeks it seems Maryville Public Safety is no longer issuing any citations for traffic accidents. I wonder if Campus Safety is going to start doing the same?"



A year of changes provides new insight

As the 2003-04 school year wraps up, it is almost impossible to write a short column summing up the developments on-campus, let alone my personal experiences.

But before I delve into the past and present events that have marked the school year, you must understand where I'm coming from so you understand why I write the things I write:

■ To understand the roller coaster ride known as "My Sophomore Year at Northwest," I must take you back to the afternoon of April 18. You also must understand three important words: revelation, change and family.

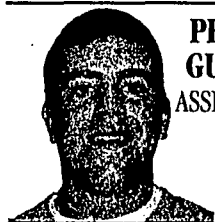
April 18 started out like any other Saturday. I slept in after a late night. Only this Saturday I was going to watch my sister play in two soccer games on-campus, (spring has sprung!) and my parents came down. I threw the ol' baseball with my dad and we played Frisbee golf with a football (it's possible). But it was after they left and the sun began to set when I experienced a revelation.

■ "Revelation," in layman's terms, is defined as an experience or a set of experiences that can send a chilling effect on your life. This can come from something simple or something complex. My revelation occurred while I was running a three-mile course that I made up as I went.

I hadn't ran that much since last June, but I ran as if I was running a high school cross country race. And that's when it hit me: things have changed so much since I graduated from high school, but I can still relate to those days.

■ "Change" is a word that can all too easily be used incorrectly. In my case, change can refer to the fact that I've had to change my lifestyle as I once knew it last August. But that didn't mean I had to change the way I

Under the 'Scope
PETE GUTSCHENRITTER
ASSIGNMENT EDITOR



perceived things in the world or here on campus.

Change for me meant going into a hospital to get evaluated to see what I was doing wrong and how to fix it. Change was when I had to constantly adjust my schedule so I could do the things my doctor told me to do. I did all of those things, but there's still something missing (I'll get back to family later).

■ Northwest is such a special place. Every part of the year, whether it's a cool autumn day, a wet-hair-freezing day in January or a hot day in the spring, Northwest still sparkles. Why then, do such mysterious and mind-numbing things happen on this campus? Why do people drink to intoxication and incoherent thoughts? Why do people set fires in residence halls? Why do people tear down the Amnesty wall for no apparent reason? And, the biggest mystery to me is, why do students take their own lives?

Two students and one former student have taken their own lives since December. You all know that if you've been on campus. But nobody has tried explaining the individuals' life leading up to the tragic hour where they would send shock waves through the Northwest family and their own families.

Whenever the topic arises, I natu-

rally try to exclude myself from the conversation or change the subject. But something that I've never understood is why these students didn't reach out and talk to somebody. Northwest has a plethora of resources, including the Health Center and the Counseling Center. But something people tend to forget is the fact that the people that work there are there to be your friend. Nothing more, nothing less. Did these students not know that? Nobody knows.

As I ran on the track at Rickenbrode Stadium that Saturday afternoon, I couldn't help but think about what they did or didn't have in their life. Did they not have friends they could talk to? Did they not have goals they couldn't accomplish? Did they not have positive attitudes about themselves?

A better question is: Did they reward and pamper themselves? Did they not step outside the box and look under the 'scope to find themselves? Nobody will ever know.

■ "Family" is a word that can be used in describing your mom, dad, sisters and brothers. But it can also be used to describe a community. And that's what Northwest is, one big family. Everybody has their roles, but sometimes things go too fast and the family struggles to get back together.

That can't and won't happen with the Northwest family. Now, more than ever, the Northwest family has to come together and re-evaluate things on a much higher level. It's needs to go under the 'scope.

Here's hoping to a safe summer and to many more great years to come. I'll leave you with a quote:

"Sometimes your life moves pretty fast. If you don't stop and look around once in a while, you could miss it."
—Ferris Bueller.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Retired dean corrects school characterization

I applaud the kudos *The Missourian* gave to President Hubbard in your April 16 edition. They are well-deserved.

However, your reporter should research the University's history before making the absurd statement that in 1984 Northwest was a "rural college, predominantly known for elementary majors." Nothing could be farther from the truth.

In 1984 the (then known) School

of Business had approximately 2,000 Business Administration majors in such areas as accounting, management, marketing and the like. There was also a strong Masters of Business Administration program on both the Maryville campus and in St. Joseph. There were 30 full-time business faculty in 1984.

These excellent Business Administration programs were developed in the 1950s and continued and ex-

panded during the 1960s, '70s, '80s and continue today.

There are literally thousands of Northwest business graduates throughout the United States, most of whom would be shocked at the characterization of the University given by your reporter.

ELWYN K. DEVORE
RETIRED DEAN AND
DISTINGUISHED PROFESSOR

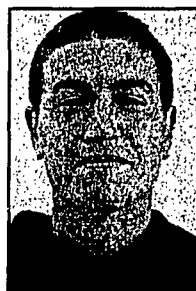
YOUR VIEW

Who would make the ultimate student body president?



"I would have to pick Adam Sandler, because he's hilarious."

Brandon Juon
Marketing Management



"Steve-O would be an awesome president, he's kind of a jackass."

Jeff Zeller
Art



"Britney Spears, because she's adored by all."

Drew Dejong
Elementary Education



"Sasha Eckstein because she is in every political organization on campus and more."

Lily Ehlebracht
Academy student



"Bobby Vinton because he's ultra smooth."

Susan Hagedorn
Psychology



"Kanye West so he can tell everyone to drop out."

Kevin Fraser
Broadcasting

The Northwest Missourian is an independent learning environment providing the best source of information and advertising for our community.

Questions? Comments about *The Northwest Missourian*? Story idea? We would like to hear from you. If you do not find the person you need on the right, please contact Abby Simons at 660-562-1224, by fax at 660-562-1521, by e-mail at northwesternmissourian@hotmail.com or write us at 800 University Drive, Wells Hall 6, Maryville, MO 64468.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We want to hear your views on this issue and others. Call *The Missourian* Back Talk line at 562-1980. E-mail your letter to the editor to northwesternmissourian@hotmail.com or send it by mail to:
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800 University Drive
Maryville, MO 64468
Letters are limited to 250 words due to space constraints. All letters must be signed; students should include their major. *The Missourian* reserves the right to edit all letters.

First year away proves a bittersweet transition

As I think back to where I was—more importantly, *who* I was—just one year ago, I shudder.

As I wind down to the last few days of my freshman year at Northwest, I think back to how a year ago I was taking semester tests to end my senior year of high school and preparing to venture out into this vast and foreign world called "college."

Most importantly, I was preparing to present a commencement speech to my fellow classmates promising them things would be OK no matter what, that we could achieve whatever we put our minds to and change was something that must be embraced.

But, as much as I thought I was certain all change had to be embraced, whether good or bad, I never saw some things coming. There were things that I would never adjust to, like how much my family and the world I left behind has changed. Each time it gets harder to go back because it never dawned on me that life would keep on going without me.

Somehow I hoped it wouldn't. With a sigh of despair I must admit that there really is no place for me at home anymore; each of my family members have created a world that, frankly, I fail to fit into anymore. My mom and stepdad keep busy with work, my 16-year-old sister Sam never stops with all the extracurricular activities that I terribly miss and my best friend Penny fills her days with her new clan of friends.

Sam no longer needs me to help her with homework or take her places, and she doesn't need me to console her after a boy breaks her heart. Calls from Penny have become few and far between as the promise of being close friends forever fades into the sound of her college parties and late night chats with giggly girls that took my place.

Neither one of them need me to hug, they've found replacements for that too.

The search to find and devour the last morsels of my former life is bittersweet. I am simultaneously saddened and filled with a sense of joy, even pride. With a dreadful pang of defeat,

My View

STEPHANIE STANGL
CHIEF REPORTER



I know that this is a turning point, that there are things that I will only be able to cherish in memory. But then I think of how far I have come and the fact that I am one-fourth of the way to starting the professional future that I have dreamed of for so long.

For every thing that has been torn down, I think of all I have built in one short year. I have met so many new people, learned many new things and built a family at *The Missourian* that couldn't be replaced.

As cliché as it sounds, I have truly "found myself" this year as so many freshmen do.

Things that I held of high value no longer rank even in the top 10 on my priority list. To explain, I was one of the countless freshman girls at the beginning of the year that wore makeup to every class, donned my very best clothes, made sure not a hair was out of place and cared what people thought. But let me tell you, things have changed.

I have washed my face, swapped my black high-heeled boots for tennis shoes and don't care if my hair resembles Medusa, all the while not caring what others think.

So, maybe change is something we all should embrace, whether good...or *not* so good. I guess I figure whatever happens, happens for a reason and maybe someday it will all make sense.

Until it does, I've decided to let my hair down and enjoy the ride.



To avoid lameness, exercise frequent rioting

My View

ABBY SIMONS
EDITOR IN CHIEF



Sometimes it takes years of hard work, concentration and a few wrong turns for the vast majority of us to determine just who we really are.

But when I turned on CNN last Sunday to be greeted by the sight of an old friend's rosy rear-end pointed at a line of cops in full riot gear, I reached my epiphany rather easily.

Yes, that 10-second clip of my buddy Norm exposing a now-famous full moon before being tackled and maced by the boys in blue taught me a true lesson in life.

Man oh man, am I ever lame.

Perhaps I should back up a bit. I was working the news desk at my weekend job when my cell phone rang. It was Norm, a friend from high school who now drinks at Iowa State University. Earlier that week, he had invited me to join him at Veishea, ISU's annual spring party that, for two glorious days, dubs Ames, Iowa the happiest—and drunkest—place on earth. Unfortunately, work and a lack of funds kept me anchored in Maryville. I had wished him a good time and told he

and the old crew to throw one back for me. Little did I know of the events that would commence.

Abby: "Hey Norm, how was the party?"

Norm: "Ab, you didn't happen to tape me, did you?"

Abby: "Eh?"

Norm: "Huge Veishea riot last night. Downtown is trashed, like 30 people are in jail. Best of all, they've been looping my ass on CNN all morning long! Can you tape it for me? I can't see right now. My eyes are still burning like hell."

Abby: "Eh?"

Norm had to go, so I hung up and turned on the TV. Sure enough, there he was, amid thousands of students sending flaming dumpsters and rocks through store windows, tearing down light poles and rolling parked cars. It was chaotic. It was horrendous. It was every college student's beautiful fantasy. And I could have been there.

Yet, instead of regret for opting not to attend what could have been the most exciting night of my life, only one thought ran through my head.

"Man, am I glad I stayed away from that."

After realizing my reaction, a daylong depression soon followed.

So that was it. I involuntarily found myself relieved that I missed what could have been my very first riot. I probably couldn't even get a compensatory "My friend got pepper-sprayed at Veishea and all I got was this stupid T-shirt" T-shirt, but I didn't care. I was actually glad that, for once in my life, I'd actually

avoided trouble.

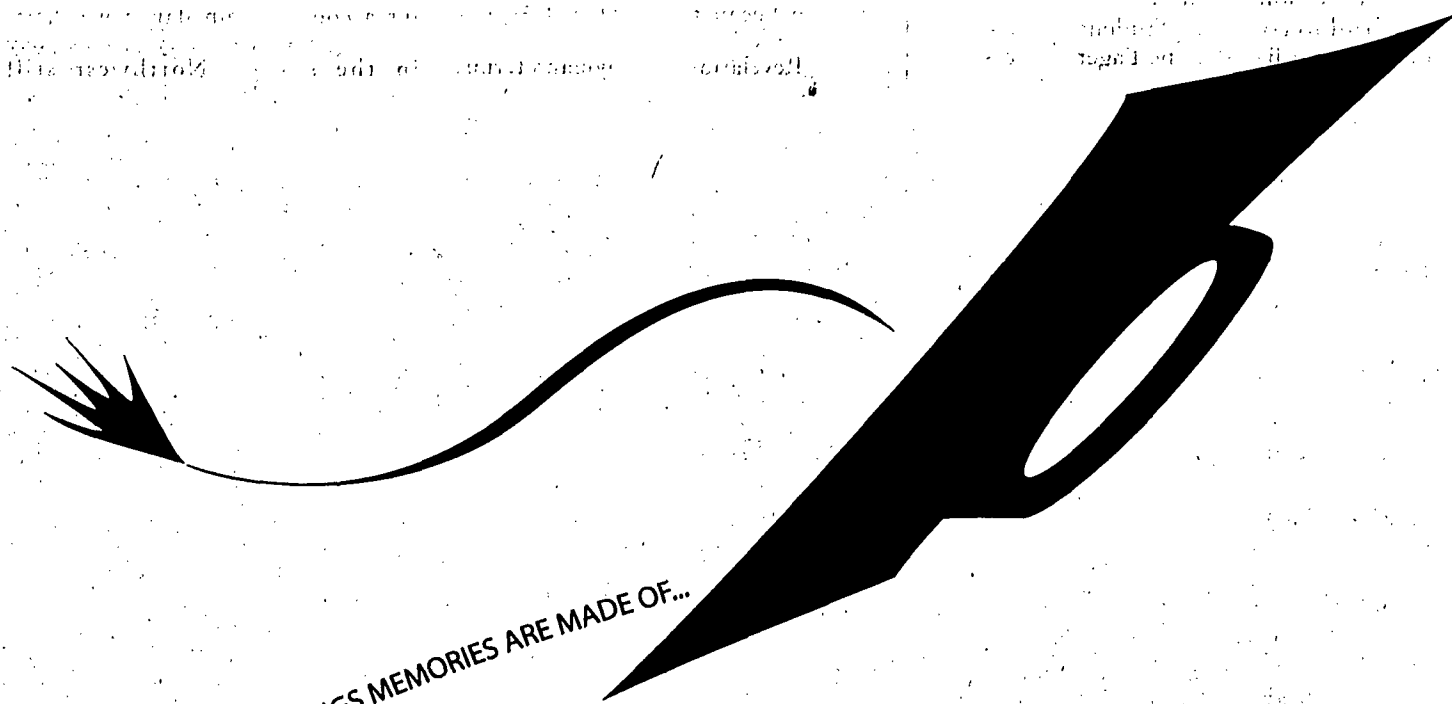
And that made me sad. And lame.

There's probably little to no moral to my musing. I really just wanted you all to know that the butt you all saw on TV belonged to a friend of mine. I think I might have even goosed it once or twice.

That, perhaps, and don't take your college career for granted before the lameness sets in. Unfortunately, mine kicked in a few years too early, the likely result of an unjustified sense of elitism combined with thousands of hours spent deep in the bowels of Wells Hall.

Instead, follow my buddy Norm's lead. As a college student, broadcasting his blurred-out cheeks to the world deems him a hero. But in a few years—or a 200-mile trip to Maryville—the same act will make him just another sex offender.

But don't worry, Norm. If it's still around next year, I'll see your ass at Veishea.



[... AND THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING]

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Students team up to curb underage drinking

By LACEY BAGLEY
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Local University and high school students plastered fluorescent orange stickers on alcoholic beverage cases, warning people about the legal repercussions of buying alcohol for minors.

On Wednesday from 5 to 7 p.m., eight local businesses participated in "Project Sticker Shock," sponsored by The Regional Council of Governments. They received a grant from ACT Missouri to cover the cost of stickers. Students from the Maryville High School organization TREND and the Northwest organization CHEERS then worked together distributing labels that said "Providing Alcohol to Minors is Illegal! Fines are up to \$1,000 and/or up to one year in jail."

Katie Godsey, project coordinator for Sticker Shock, said the project's goal is to increase public awareness about underage drinking. To do that, local youths, concerned parents and retailers are teaming up with law enforcement to strengthen punishments for individuals providing alcohol to minors.

The project began in Pennsylvania when a group of students decided to take a stand against underage drinking. Since then it has spread to several states across the nation, including Missouri, and has become an annual event in most places. Unlike many communities where the stickers are distributed during the holiday season, coordinators in Maryville decided to hold the event in the spring.

Kara Ferguson, a Northwest junior

and part of the Substance Abuse Task Force, thought the campaign will impress upon both high school and college students how much trouble they can get into by drinking alcohol under the legal age or by providing alcohol for minors.

"I think that this is going to inform high school students with Prom coming up," Ferguson said. "I think that seeing statistics, not just hearing them from their counselor, will really drive it home."

In July of 2003 the Northwest Missouri Coalition for Asset Building conducted a survey concerning underage drinking. They found that 78 percent of surveyed responders agreed that Nodaway County has a serious problem with underage drinking. Approximately 82 percent of responders over the age of 21 and 63 percent of responders under the age of 21 agreed that alcohol is easy for minors to obtain.

Despite the serious problem hinted at by this study, it was Maryville High School students who started the project. They were joined by Northwest students because the younger students can't work with the alcoholic beverages. Now, college students will be handling liquor while high schoolers will distribute stickers and tell customers about the campaign.

Bryce Lemke, a Northwest sophomore and member of CHEERS, will be helping at Aunt B's and he thinks the community will be impressed that high schoolers are becoming so involved in a serious issue.

"That shows responsibility; not only in the high school, but in the



PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER
Maryville High School seniors Amanda Cochran (front) and Sameera Almuttar place stickers on cases of beer at Bearcat Express to remind buyers that it's illegal to purchase alcohol for minors. Eight area businesses took part in "Project Sticker Shock."

community," Lemke said.

The eight businesses participating are Maryville BP, Aunt B's, Shop 'N Hop, Bearcat Express, Hy-Vee, Wal-Mart, Break Time and Casey's North. The community also showed support when none of the eight local businesses contacted declined to participate.

"Nobody has said no," Godsey said. "It shows something about how

the community pulls together."

If funding continues for this project it will become an annual event, but there are skeptics about how effective the campaign will be. John Rosenbaum, manager of Bearcat Express, had doubts but agreed to participate anyway.

"(For) most of the people that buy beer, it won't matter one bit," Rosenbaum said. "Most of the

people that buy for minors know not to, but do it anyway."

Godsey believed that there is more than one reason to have a campaign like this that puts college and high school students together.

"It's not just the signs and legal purposes—but its also showing the younger generation to set a good example for the generation after them," Godsey said.

Community events

Thurs.	22	■ Earth Day
Fri.	23	■ Last day for pre-school registration, 8-9 p.m., Eugene Field Elementary
Sat.	24	■ Abbey Trails 5K Run/Walk, 9 a.m., Conception Abbey
Sun.	25	■ Nodaway County 4-H Special Activities Day, 1:15 p.m., First Christian Church
Mon.	26	■ Nodaway County Widowed Persons, 6 p.m., Country Kitchen
Tues.	27	■ TOPS, 5:30 p.m., First Christian Church
Wed.	28	■ The Seekers, 7 p.m., St. Paul's

Additional charges brought in alleged Wal-Mart thefts

Haywood Jackson pleaded guilty to one count of misdemeanor stealing by deceit on April 13 and was sentenced to 15 days in Nodaway County jail.

According to the probable cause statement filed, Jackson appropriated four CDs from Wal-Mart, his former employer. The thefts occurred between November 2003 and Jan. 30, 2004.

Jackson, 19, still faces two counts of felony stealing by deceit, stemming from a February investigation by Maryville Public Safety. After waiving his right to a pre-trial hearing, his court date is set for 9 a.m. May 10 in Nodaway County Division I Circuit Court.

Five other defendants in the alleged Wal-Mart theft ring await trial. Brandi Harrington, Andrea Hansen, Charles Dryer and Tamonda Jenkins have separate trial dates in Nodaway County Division I Circuit Court. Aaron Scroggins awaits trial in the Nodaway County Courthouse.

Groups take action to beautify Mozingo Lake with trash pick-up

By JARED LITTLEJOHN
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Before Saturday, Mozingo Lake was sprinkled with litter. But not any longer.

About 20 members from the 102 River Wildlife Club and the Northwest Chemistry Club decided to join forces and take action to help clean up the lake.

"We thought it needed it," said

Dave Easterla, professor of biology and sponsor of the 102 River Wildlife Club. "We called and got their permission and they were tickled pink about the idea. We do a lot of wildlife community volunteer projects."

Clean-up took the two clubs more than four hours to give the lake a well-deserved face lift. The main concern was the area near and around the dam. The lake was polluted with anything from styrofoam cups to Coke cans.

"There was a lot of non-biodegradable garbage out there," said Dan Jacobs, president of the 102 River Wildlife Club. "Stuff that would take years to disappear."

After the clean-up, the clubs feasted on hamburgers and hot dogs donated by the Maryville Hy-Vee.

"We try to donate to as many local organizations as possible," Hy-Vee store director Greg Chapman said.

According to Easterla, the 102

River Wildlife Club is involved in about 30 community volunteer events each year. The club participates in anything from building wooden duck boxes to monitoring streams.

"Education is part of the experience," Easterla said. "Hands-on experience is what we get out in the field, besides dirty and muddy."

Mozingo Lake is just one of many projects the 102 River Wildlife Club has completed.

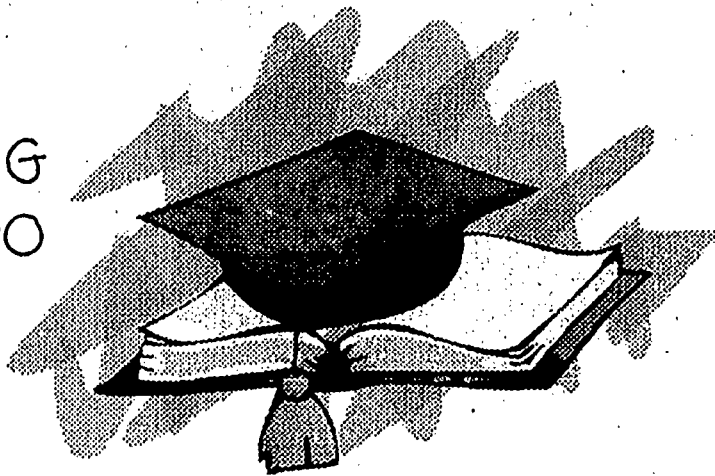
"We did it as a service project to clean up and enhance the lake," Jacobs said. "Everyone should be able to enjoy a clean environment."

Easterla agrees that helping out the community is helping out yourself.

"When I'm an old man sitting in my rocking chair I'll be comfortable knowing they are the leaders," Easterla said. "No one needs to pat me on the back, it's self-satisfying."

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PHOTO BY LAURA CADY/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

A finished portion of the hiking trail runs underneath Walnut Street north of Northwest Missouri State University. City officials are currently waiting to hear from MoDOT to begin construction on the remainder of the trail.

Hiking trail awaits MoDOT approval

By JESSICA SWARTZ
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

Red tape continues to hold up the construction of a long-awaited Dale Carnegie Memorial Biking and Hiking Trail within Maryville.

The project is currently undergoing the final phase before construction as Missouri's Department of Transportation considers it for approval.

"We're dealing with state and federal government," said City Manager Matt Chesnut. "Whenever they get a chance to look at it and give us the go-ahead, we'll begin."

In addition, the city is also waiting the governments blessing in the form of allocations.

"If you could tell me when MoDOT will authorize us to begin spending money, then you can tell me when we can begin," said Public Works Director Greg Decker.

During last week's city council meeting, interested Maryville resident Richard Landis questioned the progress of the proposed hiking trail. Councilman John Jasinski explained that the hold-up is due to the need for MoDOT's approval.

"It's very important to serve the interests of the community," Jasinski said. "We want to see (the trail) grow to fruition. It's going to take time, because of all the crossing of the t's and the dotting of the i's, but the end result will be absolutely exciting."

As MoDOT is funding the majority of the trail's cost, Maryville City Council members must await for their stamp of approval.

The trail receives its funding through a federal grant supplied by the Transportation and Enhancement Act of the 21st Century. The grant passes onto MoDOT, which in turn then decides which submitted application will be approved for the grant.

The grant, worth \$93,134, covers 80 percent of the trail's estimated cost of \$105,931. The remaining 20 percent will come from Maryville.

According to Decker, the money will come from part of Maryville's annual operating budget.

"The local match of funding is to promote responsibility of the project," Chesnut said.

The monetary percentage that Maryville provides will be used to hire the work crews.

"Twenty percent is through 'In Kind Labor,'" Decker explained. "By us paying our crews, we get the money as credit for the hours and it goes towards our 20 percent. The city will make up the difference."

According to Decker, all people employed for the job will be members of Maryville crews.

Upon completion of all its phases, the trail will begin at Country Club Drive and end up at the east side of Maryville at Depot Street.

"The overall plan is to connect the east part of Maryville to the west part, from Beal Park to Donaldson Park," Decker said. "I would estimate it to be two to three miles long."

The trail is divided into several phases. The first phase will run from Country Club Drive to Walnut Street.

"The pedestrian trail has been in the planning stages for approximately three years," Decker said.

It was then that the city of Maryville submitted an application to Missouri's Department of Transportation proposing construction of the hiking trail.

Donations sought for mural

By STEPHANIE STANGL
CHIEF REPORTER

A civic leader, an orchestra conductor and a local author will once again show their faces in Maryville.

The first piece of Maryville's rebeautification plan is underway with a mural depicting such distinguished members of society as Lela Bell, Sarah Caldwell and Homer Croy. A mural will be painted on the side of the H & R Block building at the corner of 3rd and Main Streets and will intertwine paintings of these people with a composite of turn of the century buildings.

According to Alice Hersh, mural committee chair, people from the revitalization task force, the group heading rebeautification efforts, had been in Chillicothe and seen some of artist Kelly Poling's work. They decided that his style was what they were looking for.

Task force member Aleta Hubbard commends the idea of a mural.

"I think it is just wonderful," Hubbard said. "It's very exciting because this is the first time that we've had something like this in the com-

munity. Hopefully this will be the first of many murals."

Cost to complete the mural is estimated at \$14,000, and donations to fund the project are being sought by the Maryville Citizens for Community Action from local community members.

The committee has outlined levels for citizens contributing to the project. The Bronze level indicates a contributor donated between \$250-499, the Silver level denotes a contribution of \$500-999 and the Gold level encompasses all who donated \$1,000 and above.

In addition, Gold level contributors' names will be engraved upon a plaque and will be placed at the mural site in appreciation. All contributors will be recognized for their donations and a dedication celebration will be held when the mural is completed to honor all contributors.

According to Hersh, work on the mural is scheduled to begin towards the middle of May and tax-deductible donations can be sent to Nodaway County Historical Society, P.O. Box 324, Maryville, Mo., 64468.

Sticky fingers



PHOTO BY NIKI CORDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

Eugene Field second-grader Derick Vore prepares to use a glue bottle while fellow second-grader Katie Metcalf receives help from teacher Amber Hawk. Eugene Field's after-school program provided students the opportunity to have one-on-one interaction with college tutors.

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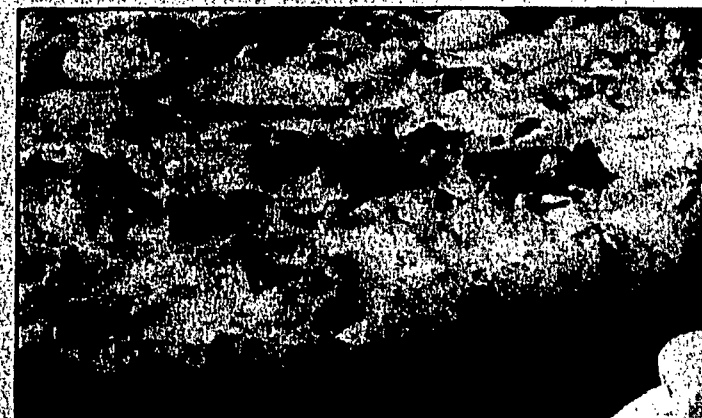
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Register teams now for September Relay for Life

The seventh annual Nodaway County Relay for Life, sponsored by the American Cancer Society, will take place from 6 p.m.-7 a.m. Sept. 11-12 at Beal Park in Maryville.

Teams come together at Relay for Life with one goal—to raise money through donations to fight cancer.

Kickoff for the teams to retrieve their packets and begin raising money will take place June 3 at the Hangar from 4:30-6:30 p.m. Teams may also retrieve their packets early.

Participants are urged to begin forming their teams today by requesting a team captain and putting together a team of 10-15 participants, consisting of walkers and/or runners.

Once a team is formed, a commitment fee of \$10 per participant is required, and team members continue to collect donations until the event.

The day of the event, one person from each team remains on the track at all times, symbolizing the refusal to stop fighting until cancer has been stopped. Meanwhile, team participants and other supporters congregate for games, refreshments and activities. When the sun goes down, hundreds of luminaries, or candles, are lit to pay tribute to those lost to cancer and to honor those still fighting. To designate a luminaia at the Relay for Life, specify the person's name and address. Luminaries are available for a minimum donation of \$10 to the American Cancer Society.

For more information regarding registration for Relay for Life, contact Muriel Zimmerman at 582-8804, Barbara York at 582-5060 or Guy Ebersole at 562-2065.

Children and Family Center sponsors candlelight vigil

The Children and Family Center, in cooperation with the University Family and Community Agencies, is sponsoring a Candlelight Ceremony named "Lighting the Way" at 8 p.m. Friday, April 23 at the Nodaway County Courthouse.

The purpose of the event is to bring issues of violence out of the darkness, including raising awareness that violence happens in the community, hon-

oring and supporting victims and survivors of violence and inviting the community to join in stopping violence in our neighborhoods, towns and counties, among others.

Campus efforts at Northwest are being coordinated by the University Health Center and Counseling Center. Northwest students are encouraged to wear their Northwest attire, including those that reflect organizations on campus. For more information contact Virginia Murr at 562-1348 or vmurr@mail.nwmissouri.edu.

City of St. Joseph to honor survivors of Holocaust

The community of St. Joseph will commemorate 2004 Holocaust Day of Remembrance on April 24. The event is scheduled to begin at 4 p.m. at Temple Adath Joseph on the corner of 17th and Felix Streets in downtown St. Joseph. The event is free and open to the public.

This interfaith event will highlight several local clergy speaking about the importance of ideas such as freedom, justice and humanity. According to event coordinator and Operation Iraqi Freedom veteran Alan Hargreaves, "We must not forget what can happen when our liberties are threatened and oppressive leaders gain positions of power."

Speaking at the event will be Eileen Kollins who interviewed Holocaust survivors for Steven Spielberg's research and preservation of survivor stories.

Focus on Kids Program to convene this evening

Focus on Kids is an educational program for divorcing parents to help them more effectively nurture and support their children during and after divorce. Parents obtain information on children's and adolescents' developmental needs, abilities and common reactions to divorce.

Sessions are held once a month. This month's session is April 22 at the Chamber of Commerce Meeting Room at either 4 p.m. or 7 p.m. The session costs \$25. For additional information contact Diane Kerns at (660) 646-0811.

4-H to sponsor upcoming Special Activities Day

On April 25 First Christian Church will host Nodaway County 4-H Special Activities Day. Setup for working demonstrations begins at 12:45 p.m., judging of working demonstrations begins at 1:15 p.m., followed by general demonstrations, public speaking, talent numbers and skits.

For more information contact the Nodaway County Extension Center at 582-8101.

Applications now accepted for summer lifeguards

Maryville Parks and Recreation is currently accepting applications for lifeguards, cashiers and concessionaires for the summer. Stop by the Maryville Community Center for an application or call 562-2923 for more information.

Applications accepted for Abbey Trails Run/Walk

The ninth annual Abbey Trails 5K run and two-mile walk will be held at 9 a.m., April 24 at Conception Abbey in Conception, Mo. The benefit will raise money for the Conception Seminary College Wellness Program.

The 5K course takes runners out and back on a scenic paved road. Participants in the two-mile walk will estimate the time it will take them to complete the course of lakefront trails on the abbey grounds. The person who finishes closest to his or her estimated time is the winner. Race registration and packets will be available at the new Welcome Center from 7 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. the day of the race.

For more information on Abbey Trails contact Director of Communications Dan Madden at (660) 944-2823.

UNIVERSITY BRIEFS

University prepares for annual 'Cat Walk event

Members of the Northwest Missouri State University community are gearing up to walk, run, stroll or jog their way to good health during the 11th annual 'Cat Walk be-

ginning at 9 a.m. Saturday, April 24, at Rickenbrode Stadium's Herschel Neil Track. Registration begins at 8:30 a.m. at the northwest corner of the Student Recreation Center.

The walk, sponsored by Northwest's Be Well Committee in an effort to raise awareness of health issues, is free and open to all Northwest faculty, staff, their families and students. Miles walked count toward miles for participants of The Great Walk.

'Cat Walk T-shirts will be distributed to persons who pre-registered and submitted \$2 prior to the April 14 deadline. A prize drawing will take place following the hour-long walk and refreshments will be served in the front foyer of Lamkin Activity Center.

In case of inclement weather, participants should bring an additional pair of clean shoes to walk in Bearcat Arena.

Art Department hosts semi-annual pottery sale

Northwest Missouri State University's art students have been busy creating unique pottery pieces for the semi-annual Art Club Pottery Sale. The sale will take place from 4-8 p.m. Friday, April 23, and from 8 a.m.-2 p.m. Saturday, April 24, in the ceramics studios located in the basement of the Olive DeLuce Fine Arts Building.

A wide selection of pottery pieces, including functional mugs, bowls, vases, jugs, plates, dishes, jars, pots and sculptures will be on sale. Proceeds from the sale will help cover students' studio costs.

For more information, contact Russell Schmaljohn, assistant professor of art, at 562-1324.

Upcoming volunteer opportunities available

Apr. 22-Earth Day, help clean up campus and the community

Apr. 24 1-5 p.m.-"Spring Clean" help Senior Citizens with house work

For more information and to sign-up, contact the Volunteer Office at 562-1954

Sigma Alpha Iota sponsors arm wrestling contest

Northwest Missouri State University's Sigma Alpha Iota will sponsor an arm-wrestling contest from 2-4 p.m. Saturday, April 24 at Colden Pond. Competitive level entries are \$5 each, and entry-level submissions are \$1. Prizes will be awarded to the top winners. All proceeds will go to Sigma Alpha Iota's philanthropies. For more information, contact Deb Sparr, fund-raising chair for Sigma Alpha Iota, at 562-5121.

Business alumnus honored with Booth College award

Chris Arnold, a 1995 Business Management graduate of Northwest, was awarded the 2003 Booth College of Professional Studies-Marketing/Management Alum Award. Chris was selected based upon his never ending dedication to giving of his time and talents to the Marketing/Management Department and its students. Chris speaks to students groups, such as the American Marketing Association. Assists current and past Northwest students with internship and career opportunities. Chris is also active in the Kansas City Alumni Association.

Chris is currently a District Manager with Hershey's Corporation, where he has worked for the past nine years. He and his wife Mindy, another Northwest graduate, and new baby reside in Overland Park, Kansas.

Senior takes first place in Northwest design contest

Nathan Welch, who will graduate with a B.S. in Interactive Digital Media in May, has won the first annual 2004 Take the Cover Art Challenge Contest, which was sponsored by the Information Systems Department in cooperation with the Office of University Relations and the Fine Arts Department.

Welch's cover was selected from several student entries and will be used for the front cover of the 2004 Electronic Campus User's Guide, which has a distribution of approximately 1,700 and is given to all incoming freshmen, select faculty and administrative staff. As the winner of the contest, Welch will have his name listed in the acknowledgments section of the User's Guide and will receive a 128 USB Pen (Flash) Drive, along with

two finished copies of the User's Guide for his portfolio.

White named a Walton Free Enterprise Fellow

Dr. Jason White, assistant professor of accounting/economics/finance at Northwest Missouri State University, has been named a Sam M. Walton Free Enterprise Fellow for the Students in Free Enterprise team at the University.

Active on more than 1,500 college and university campuses in 37 countries, SIFE encourages students to take what they are learning in the classroom and apply it to real-life situations and to use their knowledge to better their communities through educational outreach projects.

Under White's direction, the Northwest SIFE team coordinated several projects this school year, including a situational ethics survey, a budgeting seminar, a computer training seminar, Maryville business plans and Junior Achievement.

White, a 1991 Northwest graduate, joins 400 other Sam Walton Fellows nationwide who train and motivate more than 15,000 SIFE team members annually. The Fellowship was created in 1990 by the Wal-Mart Foundation and is named for Samuel More Walton, founder and chairman of Wal-Mart Stores, Inc.

Horace Mann students excel in math contest

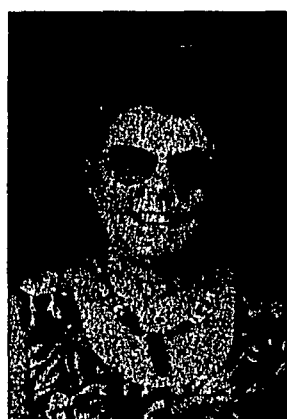
Horace Mann Lab School's fourth-, fifth- and sixth-grade students participated in the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics regional contest March 27 in Grant City. Several students placed in the top 10, including Danny Steiner, Hailey Roush, Dan Johnson, Joey Ross, Rachael Protzman, Evan Johnson and Samuel Bradley.

Students from 17 counties participated in the annual contest, including nine students from Horace Mann.

Steiner was the only Horace Mann student selected to advance to the state competition May 2 in Springfield, where he'll compete in problem solving and concepts. For more information about Horace Mann or the NTCM math contest, call 562-1233.



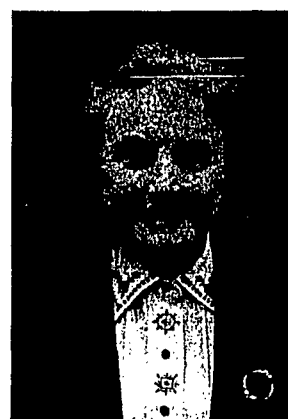
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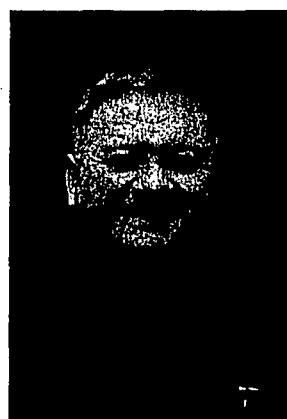
KAREN HOSKEY



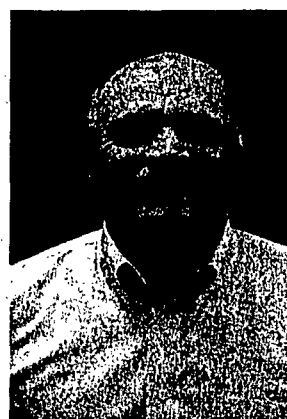
RUSS NORTHUP



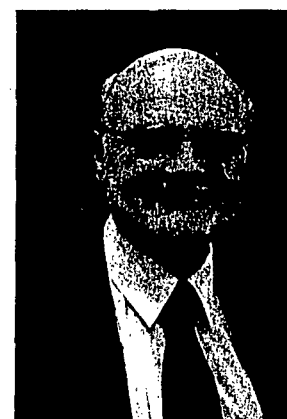
DR. ANN ROWLETTE



RUSS SCHMALJOHN



ALFRED SERGEL



DR. DAVID SLATER

The following people are retiring after having served Northwest Missouri State University for a combined

221 years

Wanda Auffert

Director of Purchasing
Aug. 12, 1974 - Aug. 31, 2003
29 years

Karen Hoskey

Secretary, Geology/Geography
Oct. 9, 1995 - April 30, 2004
8 years, 6 months

Phylis Howard

Custodian/Facility Manager
Oct. 8, 1984 - Feb. 29, 2004
19 years, 4 months

John Nielson

Construction Foreman
Oct. 25, 1976 - Sept. 30, 2003
26 years, 11 months

Russ Northup

Assistant Professor of Marketing/Management
Aug. 13, 1990 - July 30, 2004
14 years

Dr. Ann Rowlette

Associate Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences
Aug. 27, 1971 - May 4, 2004
32 years, 8 months

Russ Schmaljohn

Assistant Professor of Art
Sept. 1, 1969 - May 4, 2004
34 years, 8 months

Alfred Sergel

Assistant Professor of Music
Aug. 27, 1981 - July 31, 2004
22 years, 11 months

Dr. David Slater

Professor of English
Sept. 1, 1970 - April 30, 2004
33 years, 8 months

congratulations

NORTHWEST
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

CONTINUED from 1A

State representative, administrators supports merger at General Assembly hearing

students' opinions would change because I think the students who were informed voted 'yes,' and the people who voted 'no' probably said, 'I don't know enough about this,' Ayers said.

Wilson said he wants to continue to look at Northwest's well-being in the future.

"Northwest is a strong performer in the state," Wilson said. "We want to see if that will still happen with the UM system."

Even though both Lager and State Sen. David Klindt have held committee hearings, one obstacle remains a constant for both: time.

"With (the session) being so close to an end, time will definitely

play a factor," said Brian Baker, chairman of the House Committee of Higher Education.

Even if the committee passes it onto the house floor, Baker said, it will be hard to get passed this session.

"We'd have to justify moving (the merger bill) ahead of the other bills that are of equal importance," Baker said.

In the Senate, Klindt also saw some obstacles that must be surpassed if the merger is to be passed this session.

Last week the merger was discussed on the Senate floor for an hour before it was put in the informal calendar, Klindt said. In

putting the merger in the informal calendar, it no longer has precedent over other bills being discussed.

However, Klindt said it is hard to predict the future of the merger.

"There are many other issues going on, so it's going to be difficult to tell if it will come up," Klindt said. "It's not an easy thing to do, but I've seen things shift overnight before."

Floyd said if the merger does not pass this session, both sides will have to go back and look at things.

"Time (in the session) is coming to an end," Floyd said. "President Hubbard and I are going to have to sit down and decide if we want

to continue with the merger. The questions about the merger aren't going to change next session even if we continue to pursue it."

After the committee hearing Hubbard felt good about the way things are going.

"The (Board of Regents) makes the decision to continue the merger or not, we don't decide that," Hubbard said. "It should go now."

Overall, Lager said the question of whether the merger will be pursued next session has no impact on his job at this point.

"(There is) no pressure," he said. "I'm committed to doing what's best for northwest Missouri."

CONTINUED from 1A

Chase Cornett takes helm as president

needed.

Now Senate's new executive members will begin work this week by choosing their new committee chairs.

Cornett's goals for Senate next year are to collaborate with more campus organizations, to continue to get Student Senate's name out and to listen better to students' voices.

"We want to continue to work hard," Cornett said. "Students can expect to see Student Senate taking

action on campus issues, more forums to gain the student voice, an increase in publicity of events and an update of Senate's Web site with more interactive features."

Cornett replaces graduating senior Emily Dix, who encouraged next year's senators to keep working hard.

"You're going to have a lot of unsuspected things happen but you'll be able to handle it," Dix said. "I wish each of you the best of luck."

CONTINUED from 1A

Students pass newly revised activities fee

be charged \$15 per trimester. The fee will be charged directly to students' accounts each fall and spring trimester. Students will not be able to opt out of the fee.

If implemented, the fee would cover the costs for two concerts for mainstream artists, activities in the Student Union, outside events, movie events and comedy shows.

Each trimester Student Senate's Events Planning Committee would put together focus groups and surveys

to gather student input. Afterwards, the committee would put together three packages of entertainment to which students would choose, by voting, what entertainment they want to bring to the university.

Harden said the future of the activities fee has the potential to impact incoming freshmen when it's implemented.

"With this year's Senate approving the fee, I think it will leave a lasting mark on Northwest," Harden said.

Another sticky situation



PHOTO BY NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHER

First-grader Shyan Dredge gets help from tutor Emily Kittle during the America Reads crafts party at Eugene Field Elementary School. The afterschool program provided students with an opportunity to have one-on-one interaction with college tutors.



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P.S. Good luck!



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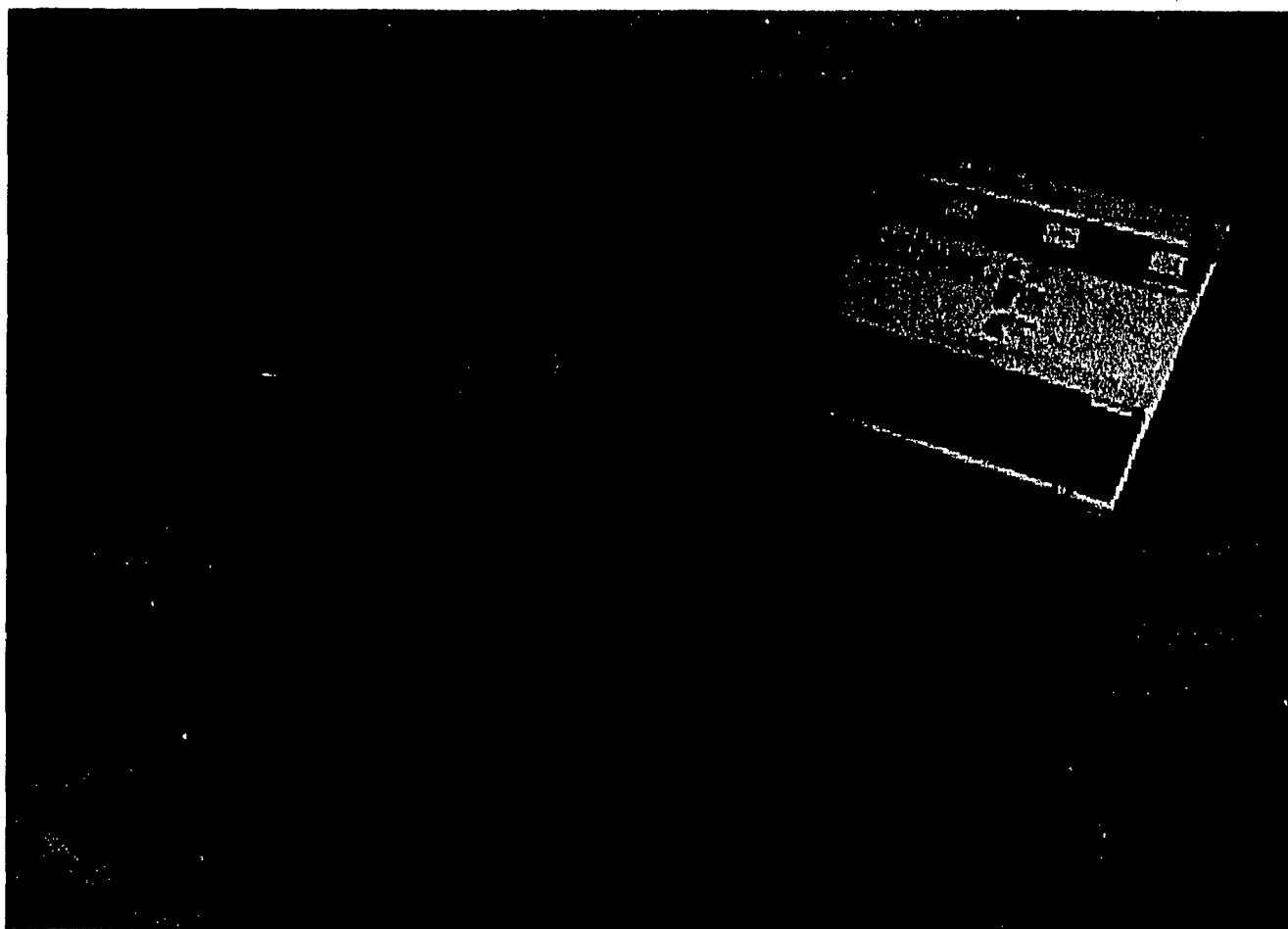
• Backpack/Tote Bag

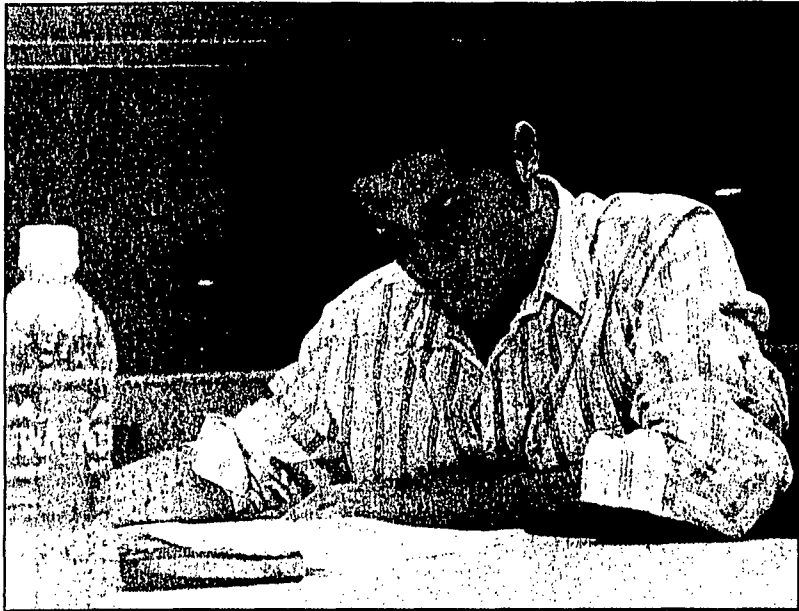
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Pablo Acebedo, an exchange student from Spain, studies for his astronomy final at the library on Tuesday evening. Acebedo, who is a member of Northwest's tennis team, says that it is often stressful to manage his time between his studies and tennis practice. He also feels that the library, rather than his Residence Hall, is the best place to concentrate.

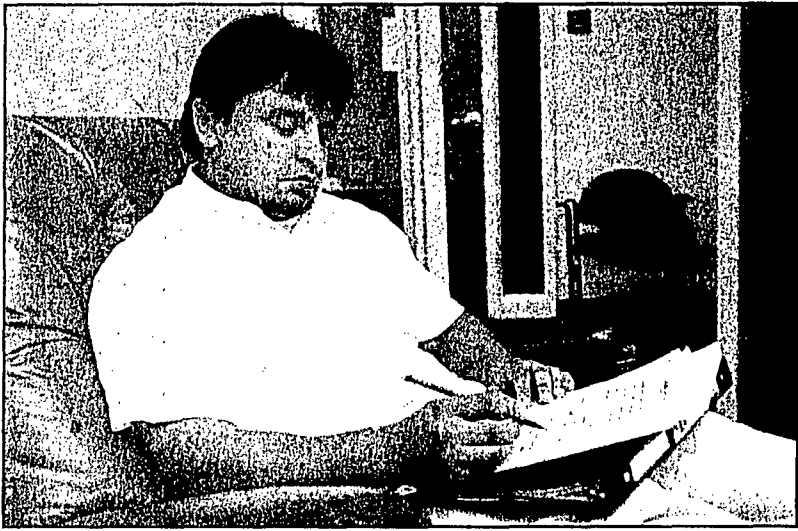
FINAL STRETCH

While some schools observe "dead week" prior to finals, the Northwest campus is very much alive.

PHOTOS BY LAURA CADY AND NIKI CARDER/CHIEF PHOTOGRAPHERS



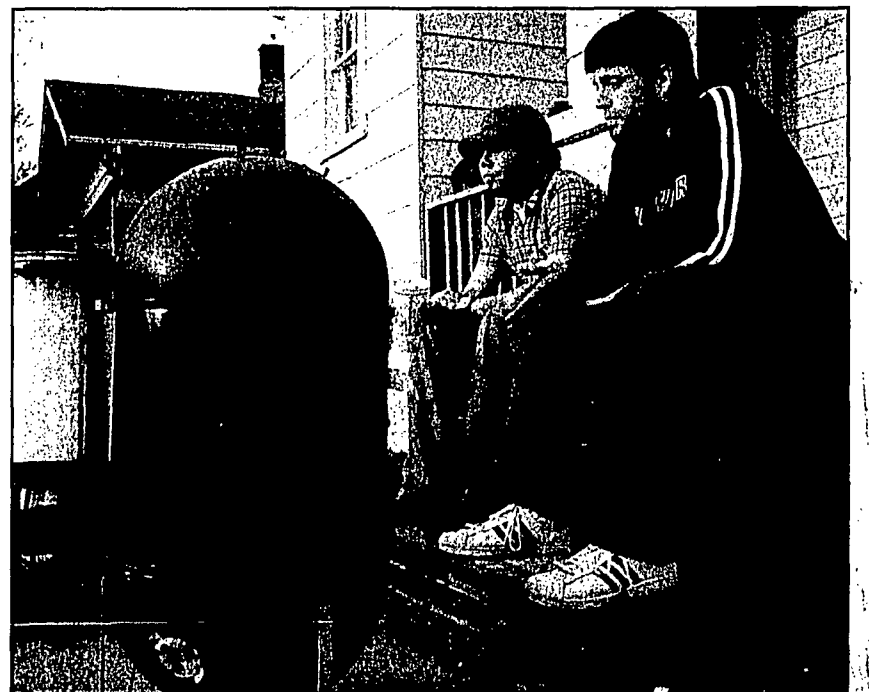
Chris Belknap and Erin Reynolds take a break from studying for finals at the library Tuesday night. Belknap tricked Reynolds into playing "the race," which consisted of him drawing all over her arm.



Spanish instructor Paco Martinez grades papers while sitting in the chair he named "El Senor Siesta Maker." "It's my good mood kind of place," Martinez said. "It puts me in a good mood to grade papers, so I don't fail everyone."



Left: Students flock around every available computer at the library on Tuesday evening. The library has been packed all week due to group projects, papers and finals to study for.



Right: Juniors Kaleb Kern, left, and Phil Afton fry a chicken for dinner while enjoying the spring weather.

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Movie Magic:

Tiffany Bohannon, Lacey Bagley, Amanda Head, Kara Hegna, Sang Jun Jang, Alisa Steward, Erin Eddy, Josh Bogdstun, Theresa Janes, Dan Jackson

HyVee:

Carrie Myers, Nizar Azarkane, Diana Hendricks, Hitomi Koyama, Doosan Baek, Kayla Fuller, Jessie Taylor, Chase Cornett, Rebecca McLaughlin

Wal-Mart:

Bethany Murphy, Jason Marx, Kerry Thompson, Amy Teutsch, Lindsey Hickman

Pizza Hut:

Laura Vescovo, Alexandra Wells, Marcy Head, Dylan Minor, Jamie Kelly, Tami Sychra, Elizabeth Carver, John McLaughlin, Curtis Feather, Sharla Carter, Kelly Peterson, Andy Shields, Michelle Richardson, Jenny Plettner

Taco John's:

Julie Toebben, Melissa Dusenbery, Melissa Murkoff

Service Lube:

Lisa Stull

Parsons' Tire & Oil Change:

Jeff Hagan

Mozingo Golf Course:

Caleb Jeffries

Grand Prize: \$50 Gift Certificate to Countryside Bistro to Becci Reinig

Continued from 12A

Piecing Life Back Together

Three soldiers and their families share their experiences of separation and reunion

GARRY AND ASHLEY UMPHRY

Ashley thought she had the flu. A friend, who suspected she might be pregnant, convinced her in February 2003 to visit a doctor. Garry, who was still stationed in Fort Riley, Kan., knew she was seeing a physician and awaited the news.

"She called me that night and told me and it was crazy," Garry said. "You are excited, but you are thinking, 'Man, what terrible timing.' I was worried about her having to go through the whole pregnancy by herself, but there was nothing I could do, so I just kind of drove on."

The idea of simply "driving on" seems to epitomize the young couple. Though Ashley was worried about delivering her baby without Garry, she knew it was something she could and would handle. With the support of both her parents and her in-laws, she "just kind of drove on."

Throughout the pregnancy, the couple stayed in touch via e-mail, letters and the occasional phone call. When Ashley's due date drew near, Garry's unit had the luxury of having a satellite phone with them at all times. The couple also contacted the American Red Cross, who planned to notify Garry of the birth as soon as possible.

Kiadence Umphry was born Oct. 11, 2003. Ashley delivered her daughter with the help of her parents and Garry's parents. She describes the labor and delivery with one word, "pain."

Garry was notified of his daughter's birth, not by the American Red Cross as the couple had planned, but by a friend who had called his wife earlier that morning.

"My friend woke me up and told me that I had to call hospital," Garry said. "I rushed to call Ashley. I was filled with mixed emotions, both excited and sad."

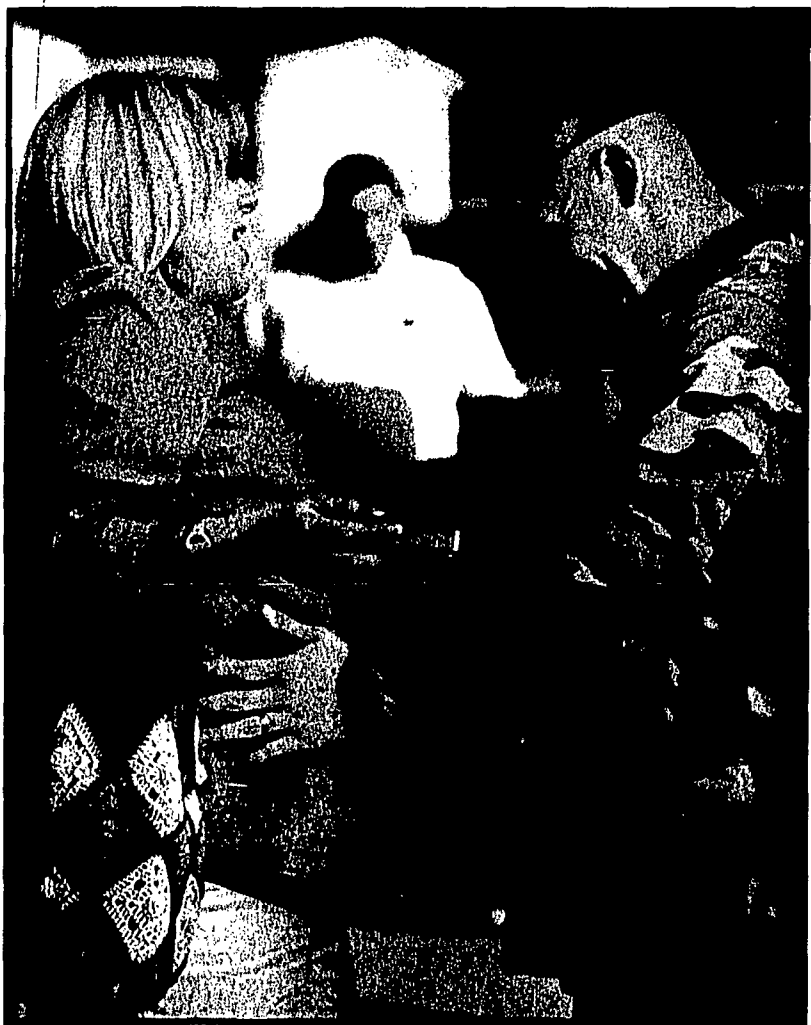
The new mother and father talked for the first time at 10 p.m., just a few hours after Kiadence's birth.

"We just talked about the baby. He wanted to know everything about her—what she looked like, how she was born—everything," Ashley said.

Garry, on the other end of the phone, felt a bit flustered.

"You try to ask questions," he explained. "But because it was the first time, I didn't even really know what to ask."

While Ashley cuddled their new baby daughter, Garry celebrated the birth with the members of his unit.



Lance Corp. Bryan Bretzius checks out his wife Diane's eight month pregnant belly at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Photo by Sandy Huffaker/Getty Images

"I had Ashley send over a box of cigars, so after we finished work that day we all sat around and smoked them," Garry said. "Later we ended up finding some alcohol, so several of us went up on top of the roof and had a couple of beers."

Garry had six long months to wait until he could see his daughter in the flesh. Though Ashley sent pictures regularly, he still felt a void.

"You can see them grow in pictures, but to hold your own child for the first time is amazingly special," he said.

The wait to hold his daughter was lengthened by an extension order. The unit was set to stay in Iraq until March or early April 2004. Garry describes the extension as a crushing blow, but not quite as difficult as the last few days before he got on the plane to go home.

Garry's unit was moved from Iraq to Kuwait before they returned; there they waited for several days before learning when they would finally depart.

"The hardest part was sitting in Kuwait with nothing to do," he said. "Every day you would see other soldiers leave and wonder why they got to leave instead of you. It was really depressing."

When Garry finally departed, he arrived first in Fort Riley. The couple decided that Ashley would wait for him in Bethany because Garry wasn't sure what his arrival at Fort Riley would involve.

He boarded a bus to Bethany and met Ashley and Kiadence at the Army Reserve building. The unit had to sit through a ceremony before being dismissed to greet their families.

"It wasn't too bad," Ashley said. "They didn't go on forever or anything but the 10 to 15 minutes it lasted seemed to take forever. When he was finally released, I ran to him."

At first Garry couldn't find his wife in the crowd. He shook hands with other people while he looked for her.

"I heard my name being hollered," he said. "Then I ran and hugged my wife."

When Garry approached Kiadence, Ashley said at first he just stood there, looking at his daughter.

"I was like, 'Here, take her.' After that he wouldn't give her back to me," she said.

Garry said holding Kiadence felt incredible.

"Finally getting to hold your daughter for the first time, it's hard to describe," he said. "You just don't want to let go. I was walking around and people kept saying, 'I'll take her.' And I said, 'She's my daughter, I can handle it.' I held her the whole night."

Garry's return home went as smoothly for the Umphrys as his departure. Both said they have matured a lot over the past year, but that their relationship has been strengthened by their time apart.

"For us, it doesn't degrade us. It doesn't break us down," Garry said.

Dealing with the daily rigors of being a father was a challenge for Garry at first. Unlike Ashley, he wasn't used to the numerous dirty changes or late-night feedings.

"Now, I actually enjoy it," he said. "And I think I'm doing an okay job so far."

Ashley just enjoys watching Garry adjust to fatherhood.

"I spend a lot of time just watching them play on the floor," she said. "At first, she'd just reach for me but now when he leaves the room, she starts crying."

JUSTIN AND MACKENZIE ADAMSON

The night of his wedding, Justin didn't get a wink of sleep. He just couldn't stop thinking.

"I didn't sleep at all that night," he said. "I was up worrying all night about her and about what was ahead."

When MacKenzie dropped Justin off at the Army Reserve early the next morning, she didn't want to stay to watch him depart. She and her new father-in-law hugged Justin goodbye and quickly left; MacKenzie said she thought it would be easier that way.

"I don't think it had even begun to hit me yet," she said. "I had just planned our wedding in three days, so it didn't really sink in that he was gone."

Justin thought he would be heading directly overseas, but instead he spent three months at Fort Riley. His time in Kansas provided a transition for the couple; though they could not see each other, they could talk every night. When Justin was actually sent overseas, things got harder.

"There was a month and a half when I didn't really get to talk to him at all," MacKenzie said. "After he was gone, that's when it became difficult. That's when I got really emotional about it."

The couple corresponded through letters and e-mails. In addition, Justin wrote in a journal given to him by MacKenzie's mother.

"I wrote in it every time I couldn't talk to her and every time I didn't want to worry her with something," he said. "We got attacked quite a bit and I didn't want to make her worry anymore than she already was."

In spite of his efforts, she was still uneasy.

"I don't know why, but I'd watch the news all the time when he was gone," MacKenzie said. "Every time I heard there was violence, I got more worried."

About a year into his deployment, Justin had the opportunity to come home on leave. He was home for two weeks and two days. Both said the brief respite in their separation made things even more difficult.

"It all felt unreal," MacKenzie said. "I didn't even run up to him at the airport, I was just kind of in shock. Then it was much harder letting him go the second time."

Justin said the time after his leave went very quickly. As his deployment neared an end, he found himself becoming more and more anxious.

"There was a lot of nervousness about coming home," he said. "We'd both changed so much. I knew we weren't going to fight more, but I was still concerned."

The couple reunited in March 2004. One of the first things they did was sit down and read parts of his journal together.

"It was so nice to have her know all the stuff I couldn't tell her at the time," Justin said. "There was so much I couldn't say."

Justin said the whole experience has opened up the lines of communication for the couple. Now, though they fight more often, they find it much easier to make up.

"After spending a year just being able to talk on the phone, we talk about stuff we wouldn't have talked about before," Justin said.

A year and three months in Iraq has also made Justin appreciate the basics, though adjusting to life back in America feels a bit odd.

"Just going to Wal-mart is weird. You can just go whenever you want and buy whatever you want. Over there, I'd have to wait hours to eat," he said.

Even driving, something that Justin did regularly in Iraq, is different.

"Driving down the road I find myself swerving away from a dead animal or a plastic bag in the road because over there it might have been an explosive," he explained.

Justin's appreciation of American comforts extends to include his family. He said being away makes you realize how much you take them for granted. This includes MacKenzie, according to Justin. Even though he lived with her prior to leaving, he now relishes being able to do simple daily tasks with her.

"The best part of being back is being able to see her everyday, to wake up next to her every morning," he said.

PAT AND GINGER JONES

Pat and Ginger Jones are old Army pros. They've weathered the storm of being apart and come out on top, but they both admit that it's not easy.

When Pat found out he was being deployed again, only a year and half after he returned from Kosovo, Ginger wasn't surprised. She had a kind of "here-we-go-again" attitude about his departure.

"You just have to take it in stride, because it wasn't my first time doing this," Ginger said. "The first time was crazy, but this time I was used to doing things on my own. We already have a will and we had power of attorney set up for him from the time before, so it was just mentally that we had to get ready."

Pat was also confident about Ginger's ability to handle life on her own. He was mostly worried about his two daughters.

"It's terrible leaving your kids," he said. "Especially when they don't understand why you have to be gone."

While Pat was overseas, he kept in contact with Ginger via e-mail, letters and phone conversations. She sent him pictures almost three times a week to keep him updated. Ginger also made sure she constantly reminded her daughters about Daddy.

"We talked about him all the time," Ginger said. "We said we were going to hug him and kiss him when he got back."

Pat was originally supposed to come home in November, but his unit got orders in October that their term of service was being extended. Pat said he was crushed.

"Have you ever had someone break up with you and you were just devastated? Take that times about 20 and that's how I felt when I heard the news," he said.

During his service, Pat experienced several

lows including Christmas and his daughter's birthdays. At one point, when he was feeling particularly low, Pat was reminded of why he was serving.

"I saw a little girl who looked exactly like my daughter. She was on the side of the road and she didn't have anything. She was completely alone, begging for food and water. Now, I'm not a religious man but I think that God knew I needed a pick me up, so he showed me a girl that I could help who looked just like my little girl," he said. "That was my high point over there; I thought about it every day."

At times, Ginger also had difficulty dealing with the prolonged separation. She jokingly said that a few months before he returned she lost all of her patience.

"It's like being a single parent. Daddy becomes a picture and a voice at the end of the phone," Ginger said. "I have great admiration for single parents now because at least I knew there was a light at the end of my tunnel."

Ginger reached the end of her tunnel in late March. She and the girls meticulously planned Pat's homecoming, which included a limousine ride for the whole family.

"The girls were all excited about it," Ginger said. "They kept talking about the big car. We tried really hard to make it a special moment."

Pat and Ginger's effort to keep the girls in touch with their father paid off. When he returned both of the girls ran for their father.

"If you have waited a year to see someone, you just can't explain how you feel. It's just a great, great feeling," Pat said. "Holding them there was this sense of relief, pleasure, satisfaction, security, warmth—just everything all at once."

Upon returning home, Pat has made an effort to get to know his daughters again. He said readjusting to his role as a father is difficult because it often involves holding his tongue.

"I don't think it's fair to your wife or your kids for you to come in as an outsider pretty much and expect to be able to tell them what to do," he said. "I haven't spanked my kids yet, even though they've needed it a few times. It's not time for that yet. You need to be friends with them again before you can become a father figure."

Pat said the same holds true for his interactions with his wife. "People change over a full year," he said. "She had to learn to be a mother and a father and I didn't learn either. It's somewhat difficult to adjust to each other again. If I was with her everyday I wouldn't have noticed the changes, so it's just going to take time."

Ginger said everything from basic lifestyle to tending to household chores takes readjustment. Pat, for example, doesn't remember what night the trash gets picked up. Also, over the course of the year, they began to live at opposite ends of the day.

"I'm used to staying up late and he was used to getting up with the birds," Ginger said. "We have to adjust to being a family again."

Pat and Ginger agree that they also have to adjust to being married again. Though it is difficult at times, they believe in each other.

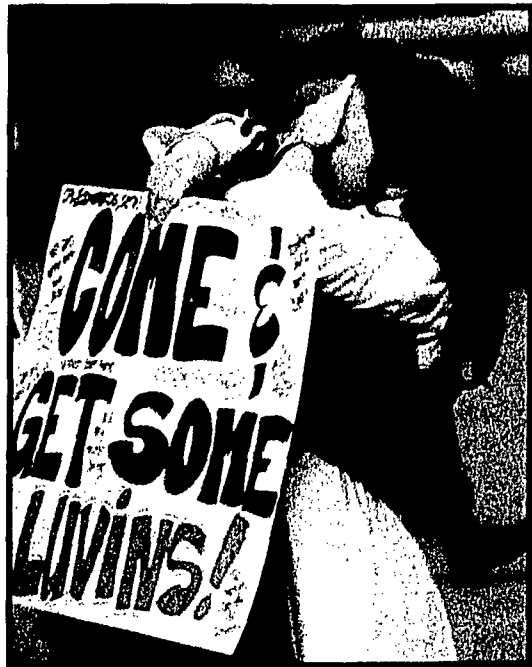
"It's been difficult on our marriage, but we made it through the last one," Ginger said. "We'll have a stronger marriage than before after we work all the kinks out."

The couple's focus on the family and their realistic approach to Pat's return helped them weather the three deployments with relatively little difficulty. Soldiers returning, according to Paul, need to take time with their families instead of jumping back into things.

Chaplain Daniel McClury, who teaches readjustment classes for soldiers at Fort Riley, couldn't agree more. McClury said all soldiers go through a series of briefings that help them adjust to life at home.

In addition to the briefings, McClury said the army offers a variety of optional seminars. The briefings and the seminars help remind soldiers that they need to focus on their families.

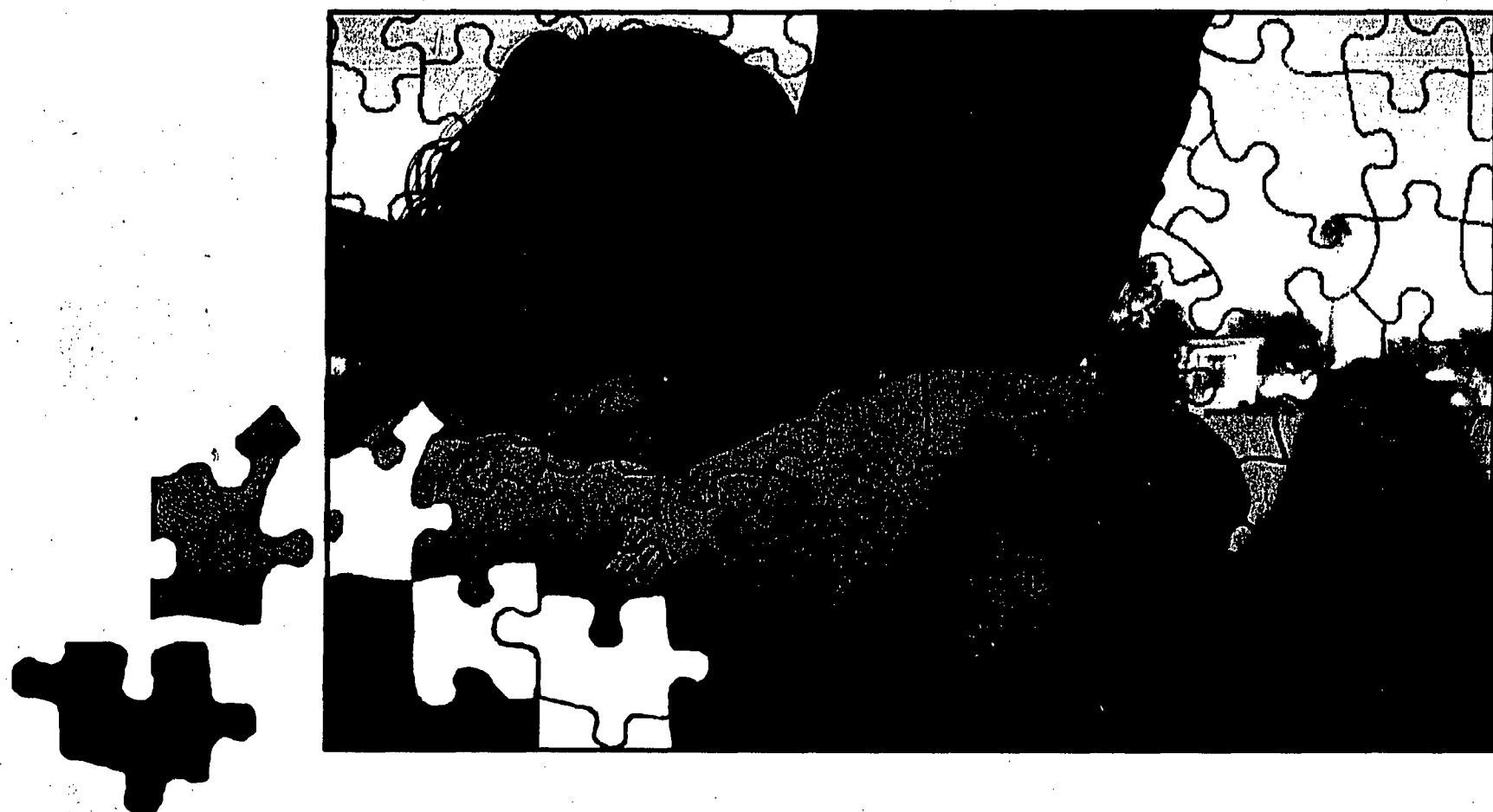
"Whoever coined the phrase 'Absence makes the heart grow fonder' is an idiot. My feeling is that absence makes the heart wander. Unless a person focuses on their family and does the things they need to do, then relationships can suffer," McClury said. "If they focus on remaining close with their families then it can be a worthwhile experience."



Angela Edwards hugs her husband Cpl. Seth Edwards after he returned from a six-month term of service in the Middle East. Edwards and other soldiers departed San Diego in June to conduct air and amphibious operations in the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and the Arabian Gulf. Photo by Sandy Huffaker/Getty Images



Lance Corp. Alberto Perez hugs his wife Maria and kids Zackery, 2, and Jasmine, 5, after serving six months in the Middle East. Perez and other soldiers with the 1st MEU departed San Diego in June to conduct air and amphibious operations, then returned in December and were reunited with their families at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Photo by Sandy Huffaker/Getty Images



Jessica Reid, 7, hugs her dad Capt. Matthew Reid while he talks to reporters at Camp Pendleton, Calif. after coming home from a six months in the Middle East. Reid and other soldiers in his unit were reunited with their families Dec. 14, 2002. Photo by Sandy Huffaker/Getty Images

Piecing Life Back Together

Three soldiers and their families share experiences of separation and reunion

By BETSY LEE
FEATURES EDITOR

Ashley Umphry was sitting at work when he told her he was leaving. It was a bitter Monday in January 2003 and Garry Umphry got the call that he was being deployed to Iraq; he had until Wednesday morning to prepare. When he called his wife of six months at work to tell her the news, she cried. Though Ashley was excited for him — the deployment was something he had said he wanted — she was worried about his safety and about what her life would be like without him. At the time, her only concern involved the two of them, but by the time he returned in March 2004, her whole life was wrapped up in someone else — their six-month-old daughter Kiadence.

MacKenzie Adamson is a married woman and has been for over a year, but she has only spent a few nights with her husband since their wedding. Justin Adamson found out he was leaving for Iraq in January, just when he was preparing to ask his live-in girlfriend of three years, MacKenzie, to marry him. Despite the fact that they only had three days, the two hastily planned a wedding. They were married at Laura Street Baptist Church, Jan. 26, 2004, in what Justin describes as a

beautiful ceremony. Twelve hours later, he rose at 5:30 a.m. and left for his eventual destination, Iraq.

Pat Jones and his wife, Ginger, are comfortable with deployments. Pat has been sent overseas three times. They have their family affairs in order and they know that they are going to be okay. It's their two daughters that they worry about.

Their daughters, now 5 and 7, have experienced Daddy being gone before. Just a year and a half before he was deployed to Iraq, he spent nine months in Kosovo. Last time he returned, his youngest child didn't remember him.

This time, Ginger tells them that Daddy has to go "to Army to help get rid of a 'bad man.'" Pat worries that when he returns, after a year and three months, his daughter might not recognize him again.

These three men, all from the 795th Postal Unit, based out of Bethany, Mo., faced a major life change with their deployment. They spent over a year overseas and were forced to communicate with loved ones only by phone, letter or e-mail. Upon returning, not only did they have to adjust to their changing family life, but also to the fact that normal things, like paying for a Coke, felt "weird." A glimpse into their lives overseas and back at home provides a different, more personal look at the Iraqi conflict.

(Please see 'Piecing', 11A)

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2003 Buick Lesabre	16k	White	\$16,995.00
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Loe: 'We control our own destiny'

'Cats in second place in MIAA; last place Baptist on deck

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

It's amazing what a little bit of momentum can do for a baseball team.

Three weeks ago, the Bearcat baseball team was more worried about finishing the season above the .500 mark in the MIAA than winning a conference championship. For that matter, the 'Cats felt as though most hope for a conference title was gone.

My, how the times have changed. Northwest (30-15) have won their last eight MIAA games and have put

themselves back in the hunt for an MIAA title.

"It is a credit to the kids how they came out and made the corrections, especially at the plate," head coach Darin Loe said.

On Wednesday against Truman State, the bat came alive for first baseman and pitcher David Dugan. The senior went 3-for-4 in the first game of the doubleheader, as well as scoring three runs in the 'Cats' 12-5 win.

In the second game, it was again Dugan who pushed across the first run, this time belting his sixth home run of the season.

"We couldn't get the bats going right from the start," Dugan said. "We needed a spark and I

Game 1	12-5	Game 2	4-1

was the one today."

Dugan was not only a pain for the Bulldogs at the plate, but also in the field. In the second game, Dugan stopped what looked to be at least a double with a headlong dive towards the first baseline.

"He has been our defensive leader for two years," Loe said. "He is the best first baseman I have ever coached."

(Please see Loe page 2B)



Brad Schwarz slides into third on Wednesday against Truman State. The Bearcats swept the Bulldogs. Northwest scored three runs off of throwing errors to third base, including Schwarz. Northwest improved to 30-15 on the season.

PHOTO BY COLE YOUNG/SPORTS EDITOR

Shaw's last-second shot leads list as top sports events of year

By The Northwest Missourian sports staff

No. 1 - Men's basketball vs. Drury University (62-59 win) March 16, 2004

With a berth to the Elite Eight on the line, Northwest looked like it was destined to spend Spring Break at home instead of California.

The 'Cats shot just 22.9 percent in the first half and trailed 30-24 going into halftime. To start the second half Drury pushed its lead to 11 points. They still led by 11 points with 12:02 to go when senior guard Kelvin Parker went to work.

The All-American scored 12 straight buckets for Northwest, pulling them back within four points, 49-45. The Bearcats evened the score with 6:26 to go when junior forward Byron Jackson tipped in a bucket.

With 31 seconds remaining and the score tied at 59, Northwest called a timeout to set up its final play.

Parker stalled out the clock and drove to the basket with seven seconds remaining. When three Drury players collapsed on him, he dished it off to junior teammate Jesse Shaw, who buried a three-pointer at the buzzer to give Northwest a 62-59 win.

No. 2 - Football vs. Pittsburg State University (20-19 win) November 15, 2003

With an MIAA Championship on the line, the 'Cats upset No. 8 ranked Pitt State for the seventh straight year.

Northwest jumped to an early lead and looked like it would have no problem defeating the favored Gorillas. The Bearcats held leads of 10-0 and 20-

6, but Pitt State did not quit. Quarterback Neal Philpot led the Gorillas back with a quarterback sneak and an option keeper. Then running back Germaine Rice made it a one-point game with a 10-yard scamper. The score would have been tied, but Pitt State botched their second extra point of the game.

Still, the Gorillas had a chance to win the game. With 55 seconds remaining junior cornerback Tony Glover blocked a field goal attempt to preserve the win.

No. 3 - Women's basketball vs. Emporia State University in the MIAA Tournament (76-62 win) March 7, 2004

The 'Cats defeat the Lady Hornets, a team that had beat them by 14 points or more in their previous two meetings, for the MIAA Tournament Title.

It was a team effort for the 'Cats as all five starters scored in double figures, led by senior point guard Jane Chalmers' 20.

Northwest led from start to finish, using a stingy defense and potent offense, guaranteeing Northwest a berth in the NCAA Division II Tournament for the first time in head coach Gene Steinmeyer's tenure.

No. 4 - Alisha Samuel earns All-American status in the 60m dash at the Indoor National Track and Field Championships March 13, 2004

(Please see Shaw page 4B)



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION BY COLE YOUNG/SPORTS EDITOR

The Northwest Missourian compiled its top athletes and games of the past school year. Check out pages 4B and 5B for who the staff chose as their winners of the prestigious awards.

Nimmo reinjures knee; 'Cats fall to Gorillas

By JEROME BOETTCHER
ASSISTANT SPORTS EDITOR

The Bearcats suffered another blow to their lineup on Sunday at Pittsburg State as the team lost both games of the series.

Senior shortstop Melissa Nimmo re-injured her knee during the second game of the doubleheader. As she was coming down after making a tough catch, she landed on her right knee.

"It breaks my heart to see it happen again," head softball coach Susan Anderson said. "So many people didn't see what went on behind the scenes. Once she got the verdict that it was going to be a 50-50 chance of her getting back, that was all she needed to hear to be determined to get back out on the field."

Nimmo sat out all last year after sustaining the injury early on in the season and did "very intense" rehab seven days a week to get back, Anderson said. The season-ending injury ends Nimmo's career, as she only has a week left on the season. Ashley Pride will move from third base to shortstop and finish up the season in that position. Freshman Tami Phillips will now play third base.

The 'Cats lost the games 6-5 and 4-3, both on walkoff hits. In the first game, the 'Cats led 4-2 as they headed into the bottom of the sixth inning. However, the Gorillas managed to get two runs off Northwest starter Shelly MacDonald to tie the game. Relief pitcher Talina Canow came in and re-

tired the first batter she saw to get out of the inning.

The game went into extra innings and in the bottom of the eighth, third baseman Tami Phillips hit her first-ever collegiate home run to put the 'Cats back up. But the lead was short-lived as Pittsburg State got three straight hits in the bottom of the eighth to load the bases. Then Emily Gastineau hit a two-run single to win the game for the Gorillas.

The Bearcats scored two quick runs in the first inning to start the second game. Angie McCoy hit a double to knock in Megan Spring and Ashley Pride. The 'Cats had their biggest lead of the game, 3-1, as they went into the bottom of the third. The Gorillas scored runs in the third and fifth innings to tie the game. Then, in the bottom of the seventh, starter Kelly Hainline gave up a solo homer to Sharell Anderson with one out in the inning as the Gorillas swept the series. It was Hainline's 12th loss of the year.

"It's very frustrating to lose those games to Pitt State like that because so far we have split with everybody," Anderson said. "We definitely could have come away with at least one of those games, so it's frustrating that we couldn't hang on to it."

The day before, the 'Cats swept

(Please see 'Nimmo' page 3B)

Spoofhounds struggle to get offense in loss

By ANTHONY STEINS
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The trip to St. Joseph is a short one, but on Monday night it must have felt like a million miles for the Maryville Spoofhounds baseball team.

The 'Hounds fell to conference rival Benton Cardinals 10-2 in the first round of the Pony Express Tournament at Phil Welch Stadium Monday.

The 'Hounds were led offensively

by junior Josh Wilmes, who went a perfect 2-for-2 at the plate and scored one run. Senior Hans Plackemeier chipped in with a single, double and one run scored.

The 'Hounds were only able to muster five hits against Cardinals pitcher Kyle Heim, improving to 4-0. Heim threw a complete game while striking out nine 'Hounds.

"Our offense wasn't performing like usual," Wilmes said. "In order for success, we are going to have start

hitting the ball better."

Senior hurler Mark Hendrix took the loss for the 'Hounds as the Cardinals tagged the pitcher for eight runs in four-plus innings of work.

On the day, 'Hounds pitchers combined to give up 19 hits, while only fanning three batters.

Despite the pitching woes, head coach Brian Lohafer isn't too concerned about his hurlers.

"We have several underclassmen

and upperclassmen who are stepping up," Lohafer said.

In the field, the 'Hounds committed five errors, allowing for three Cardinal unearned runs.

"We need to perform better defensively," Wilmes said. "There were a lot of bad throws that we shouldn't have made."

After the loss, Lohafer said the seniors held a team meeting to get

(Please see "Baseball" page 3B)

Relay team sets mark at Quad State Invitational, team places third

By JEROME BOETTCHER
ASST. SPORTS EDITOR

Although the Maryville boys' track team fell just a few points short of winning the Quad State Invitational, they did manage to set a few meet records.

The 4x100-meter relay team set a meet record on Friday as they finished with a time of 44.23. Taylor McClellan, Myles Burnside, Jared Renfro and Syd Brisbane made up the team.

Sophomore Ben McKim also set a meet record in the discus throw with a throw of 148'10". The record beat the previous result by more than 13 feet. Renfro also finished first in the 100-meter dash with a time of 11.74. "(Renfro's) having the kind of year

that I expected him to have and that he expects to have," boys' head track coach John Pelzer said.

The team finished third overall with a total of 120.5 points, only a half point behind St. Joseph Central and only four and a half behind Excelsior Springs, who won the meet.

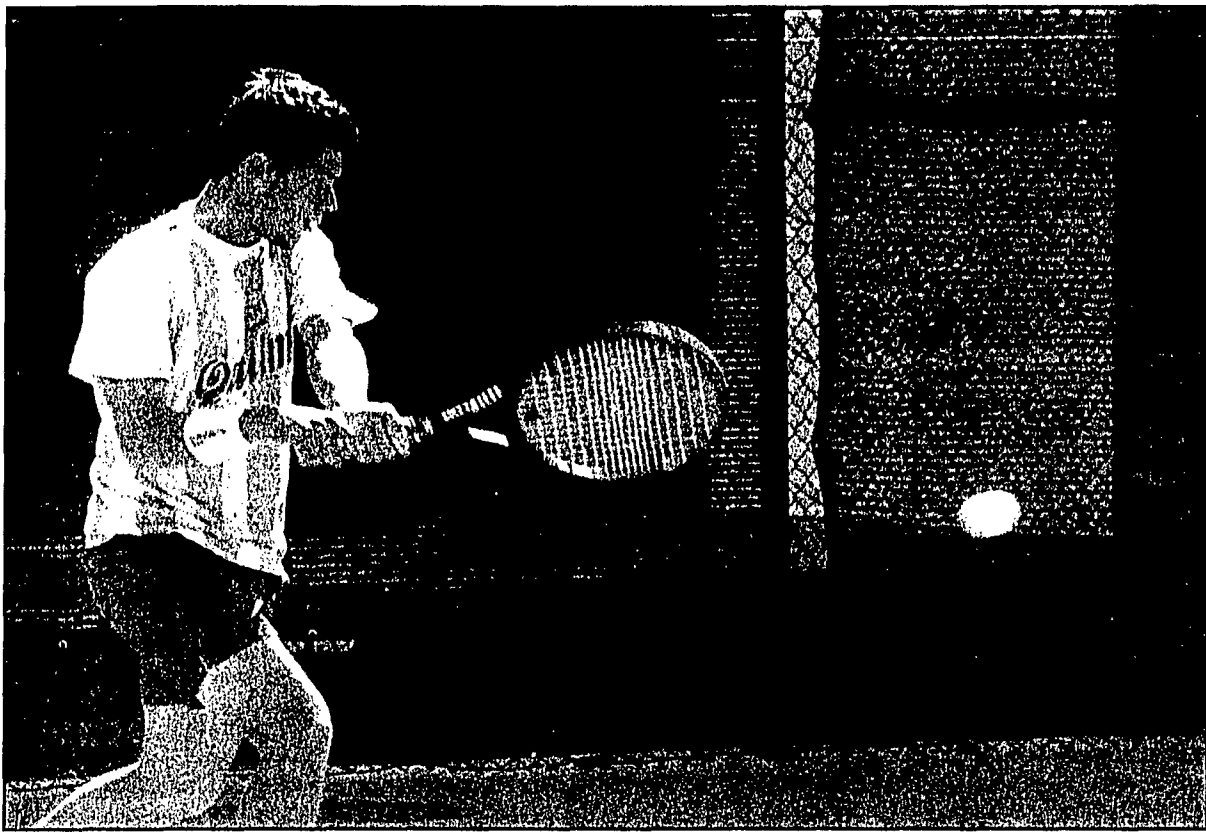
"I was pleased with how we competed there," Pelzer said. "The two teams that finished ahead of us have twice as many students as we do and for us to be within five points of the lead, like we were, and half a point or a point out of second, I thought for a school of 484 we held our own."

Pelzer also said that one surprise so far this year is senior hurdler Keaton Guess, who had played tennis

(Please see Relay page 3B)



PHOTO BY COLE YOUNG/SPORTS EDITOR
Sydney Brisbane crosses the finish line in the 4x100-meter relay Friday at the Quad State Invitational. The relay team won the event and set a new meet record of 44.23 seconds.



FILE PHOTO

Pablo Acebedo practices last week at the Grube Courts. The team travels to Topeka this weekend to participate in the MIAA Championships.

Women knock off No. 1 Washburn, MIAA Championships up next for tennis squads

By COLE YOUNG
SPORTS EDITOR

If the Northwest women's tennis team continues to improve on last weekend's performance, the MIAA tournament should be fun for the Bearcats.

After going 2-3 at the University of Central Oklahoma Broncho Invitational, the 'Cats picked up a big win against Washburn on Monday.

The Lady Blues were ranked No. 1 in the region before Monday's 6-3 loss. The victory could put the Bearcats in the national top 40 in the final weeks of the season.

"I could see the women being ranked in the next couple weeks," head coach Mark Rosewell said.

The women earned a win over the host school Central Oklahoma in their first match of the tournament.

Following the win they fell in their

next three matches against Rockhurst, St. Edwards and Drury.

However, Northwest was forced to play without one of their key elements during much of the tournament. Rosa Tapia was sick much of the weekend keeping her out of several matches.

The level of play at the tournament is one that is rivaled by very few in the area.

"The competition level is so good," Rosewell said. "Every team you are playing is ranked somehow or another. The women beat two good teams."

On the men's side, Northwest had a little more luck. After dropping their first two matches, the men came away with three straight wins.

"We could have easily won those first two matches and we could have lost the other three," Rosewell said. "That shows you how close the teams were. It was really good competition."

Four of the five matches were determined by two points or less. Only the 'Cats' win over East Central Oklahoma was a decisive win.

The confidence gained by the tournament is something Rosewell thinks will help the Bearcats at the MIAA tournament.

"We have been playing this tournament for 11 years, so the formula is in place for us to do well at the conference tournament," Rosewell said.

Overall, the head coach expects a good performance from the Bearcats this weekend.

"We are usually there challenging for the conference championship every year," Rosewell said. "Southwest Baptist maybe is a little better than us, but we will go ahead and play them and see what happens. Both teams are over-achievers. We lost some good players from last year and they have played well."

CONTINUED from 1B

Baseball sweeps Truman State; team looks to grab a share of conference title

Northwest seems to switch from high-octane offense team to a squad reliant on its pitching from game to game.

After unloading for 40 runs in three games against Missouri-Rolla two weeks ago and another 12 on Wednesday, the 'Cats wrapped up the twinbill with a pitching gem from freshman Justin Hillenbrand.

The freshman threw a complete game, giving up just one run on three hits.

"It is really good to see him throw like that," said Dugan, the MIAA Pitcher of the Week. "It is good for him. He has only had two or three starts all year, so it was nice to see him come out and have a good start to get his confidence back up."

Thanks to Missouri Western being swept by Central Missouri

State over the weekend, if Northwest and Central win out, the 'Cats still have an opportunity to win and share the MIAA title.

"Right now we control our own destiny for the conference championship and the No. 2 seed," Loe said. "If everything stays the same we can get a share of the conference championship against Central Missouri."

BY THE NUMBERS	
Game One	
Truman State 2003 02-0	
Northwest 2003 15-3	
W.P. Servantes (4-0)	
Game Two	
Truman State 001 000-0	
Northwest 004 000-X	
W.P. Hildebrand (2-2)	

CONTINUED from 1B

Cats to face No. 1 Bulldogs without senior shortstop Nimmo

Missouri Southern, 2-0 and 6-2. MacDonald picked up her sixth victory of the season as she pitched a three-hit shutout.

In the second game, Spring hit her 36th double of her career in the second inning. The double put her on top of the Northwest career doubles list. She currently leads the team in doubles with 14. Hainline picked up her eighth victory as the 'Cats won 6-2.

"Not only did we get good pitching performances, we got great defensive performances," Anderson said. "Our defense did a terrific job against Southern and that's what we're going to need. We're going to need all of it to start clicking."

Last Thursday the 'Cats swept their home finale against Lincoln University. The 'Cats won the first game 10-1. MacDonald pitched a

one hit shutout in the win. Spring had a home run and three RBIs in the game. The senior added another home run and five RBIs in the second game as the 'Cats won 10-0. Freshman Kaytee Schulenberg also homered in the game. Hainline had a no hitter going until the fifth inning, when she gave up an infield hit.

The team is playing their series against Truman State, the No. 1 team in the MIAA, today, a series that was cancelled on Tuesday due to inclement weather. They will then travel to Warrensburg to compete in the CMSU Jennies Invitational. The 'Cats will hope to keep their season alive the following weekend as they travel to compete in the MIAA Tournament.

Anderson hopes the team will get over the injury problems like they have been all year. At least seven players have had to deal with

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Volleyball signs FOUR RECRUITS

The Northwest volleyball team just got bigger.

Head coach Lori DeJongh-Slight has announced the signing of four student-athletes to national letters-of-intent.

Lauren Cummings out of Ankeny High School in Iowa is a six foot middle hitter and was named First-Team Class 4A All-State.

Junior Caylee Meyer, a setter out of the Indian Hills Community College, was named All-Region Most Valuable Player.

Another big addition squad will be Carly Sutterland, a senior out of Omaha, Neb. who not only is a 6'2" middle hitter but also earned honorable mention all-state honors.

Finally, the Bearcats picked up an outside hitter in Rachel Spensley, who is out of Dubuque, Iowa.

injuries this year. The injuries have varied from a bone bruise to an MCL injury. One player even picked up mono.

"It's unreal all the different things that we've had to overcome and it's unbelievable how well our players have stuck together," Anderson said. "If we needed to move somebody around to a different position, they've had a great transition and they've done the job they needed to do. That's always we've got to keep asking of our team. We're going to make it, we've done it so far and we just need everybody to step up their game and to do whatever is asked of them at whatever position and keep doing everything that they have been doing."

Jerome Boettcher can be contacted at 562-1224 or jboettcher@missourianonline.com



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PLAYER OF THE WEEK

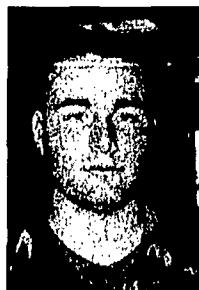


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ARMCHAIR QUARTERBACK

What are the Royals' biggest problems this year?



"I heard on the radio that they played pretty well, but since they've lost a lot it may be a good thing because tickets will be cheaper and lines will be shorter."

JOHN PSEGINAK
Army National Guard



"I'm really not a baseball fan. I honestly don't even know if they're winning. I've only been to one baseball game in my life, but it was a Royals game."

TANYA BELOKONNY
Psychology/
Sociology



"Once they get a lead they start to lose it. They've got the bats to get their runs, but as the game progresses the defense starts to get run down, but there's still hope."

RICKY BODDEKER
Elementary Education



"They're from Kansas City, and George Brett retired."

STEVE TERRY
Speech/
Communication



"Pitching. Starting pitching. If they could get five or six innings out of their starting pitching each game, they'd be fine."

BOB BOERIGTER
Athletic Director

CONTINUED from 1B



Eric Wilmarth, right, tries to catch up as he runs in the 110-meter high hurdles on Friday. Wilmarth finished sixth overall.

McKim, Renfro take home top finishes as the team gets within five points of winning the meet; women finish ninth

his previous years of high school. Guess placed fourth on Friday in the 300-meter hurdles and won the same event last Tuesday at the Maryville Invitational.

"Here's a kid that at the start of March hadn't hurdled since eighth grade," Pelzer said. "So we're real happy with him right now and we have a real good group of guys that are working hard and we just keep directing ourselves towards conference, where we hope to defend our title and we'll go from there."

On the women's side, the team finished ninth overall with a total of 40 points. Kristin Degase provided

the only second place of the day for the Spoofhounds as she finished with a mark of 33'6" in the triple jump. The 'Hounds didn't earn any first place finishes on the day. However, the 4x200 relay team had a personal best performance with a time of 1:53.37.

"We improved, our team improved, we hadn't seen that caliber of competition," said senior Hilary Reynolds, who ran on the 4x200 team. "So (the meet) was good for that."

Reynolds also took her second consecutive fourth place finish in the long jump.

The team ran on Wednesday at the Smithville Relays and will run again today in the Hamilton Relays.

Head track coach John Pelzer sees the back-to-back meets as an extra plus for the team.

"We're going to kind of look at it as a situation of two good workouts in a row for our guys," Pelzer said. "There's really no way to simulate a meet and practice. We're just going to look at it as good opportunities to have back-to-back tough workouts. If we can happen to bring home a couple titles in the process, then that will be even better."

Hounds blown out by St. Teresa's

By JEREMY SCHWENK
MISSOURIAN REPORTER

The Maryville girls soccer team suffered a loss 7-0 loss Tuesday to St. Teresa's Academy.

The game was quickly taken away from the 'Hounds when St. Teresa's scored three quick goals in the first half and put the 'Hounds on the defensive for the rest of the half.

The second half also didn't go well for the 'Hounds when they were rejected to counter any of St. Teresa's first or second half goals.

The loss came after a busy weekend for the 'Hounds, who went 2-1 in the North Kansas City Tour-

namment last weekend.

Maryville fell to St. Joseph Central in the first game 2-0 on Friday and followed that with another 1-0 loss Saturday to Shawnee Mission North. The 'Hounds finished off the tournament with a 4-1 win over William Chrisman.

Maryville was also on the losing end in a 4-1 loss to Smithville last Friday, which came after the 'Hounds impressive 5-0 win over Benton.

The 'Hounds will enter conference play this afternoon at 4:30 against Cameron at the Maryville Middle School field.

Jeremy Schwenk can be contacted at 562-1224 or jschwenk@missourianonline.com

CONTINUED from 1B

Baseball falters at Pony Express

the team headed in the right direction.

"The senior guys wanted to hold the meeting to make sure the team was on the same page and everyone was giving their whole effort," Lohafer said.

Going in with a 1-2 conference mark, Lohafer feels the 'Hounds are a team that shouldn't be overlooked.

The 'Hounds will be back in action at 4:30 p.m. Monday when they head to St. Joseph for conference game with the Benton Cardinals.

Anthony Stiens can be contacted at astiens@missourianonline.com or at 562-1224

FAN PLAN

	TODAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
Northwest baseball		Southwest Baptist 3 p.m.	Southwest Baptist 1 p.m.				
Northwest softball		CMSU Jennies Invitational					
Northwest men's tennis		MIAA Championships Topeka, Kan.					
Northwest women's tennis		MIAA Championships Topeka, Kan.					
'Hounds baseball		Pony Express Tournament			Benton 4:30 p.m.	LeBlond 4:30 p.m.	
'Hounds girls' soccer		Cameron 4:30 p.m.			Smithville 4:30 p.m.	Lafayette 5:30 p.m.	

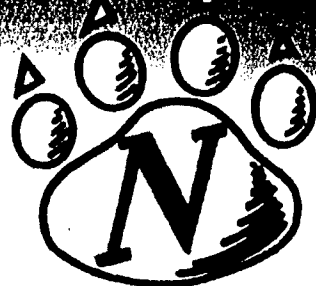
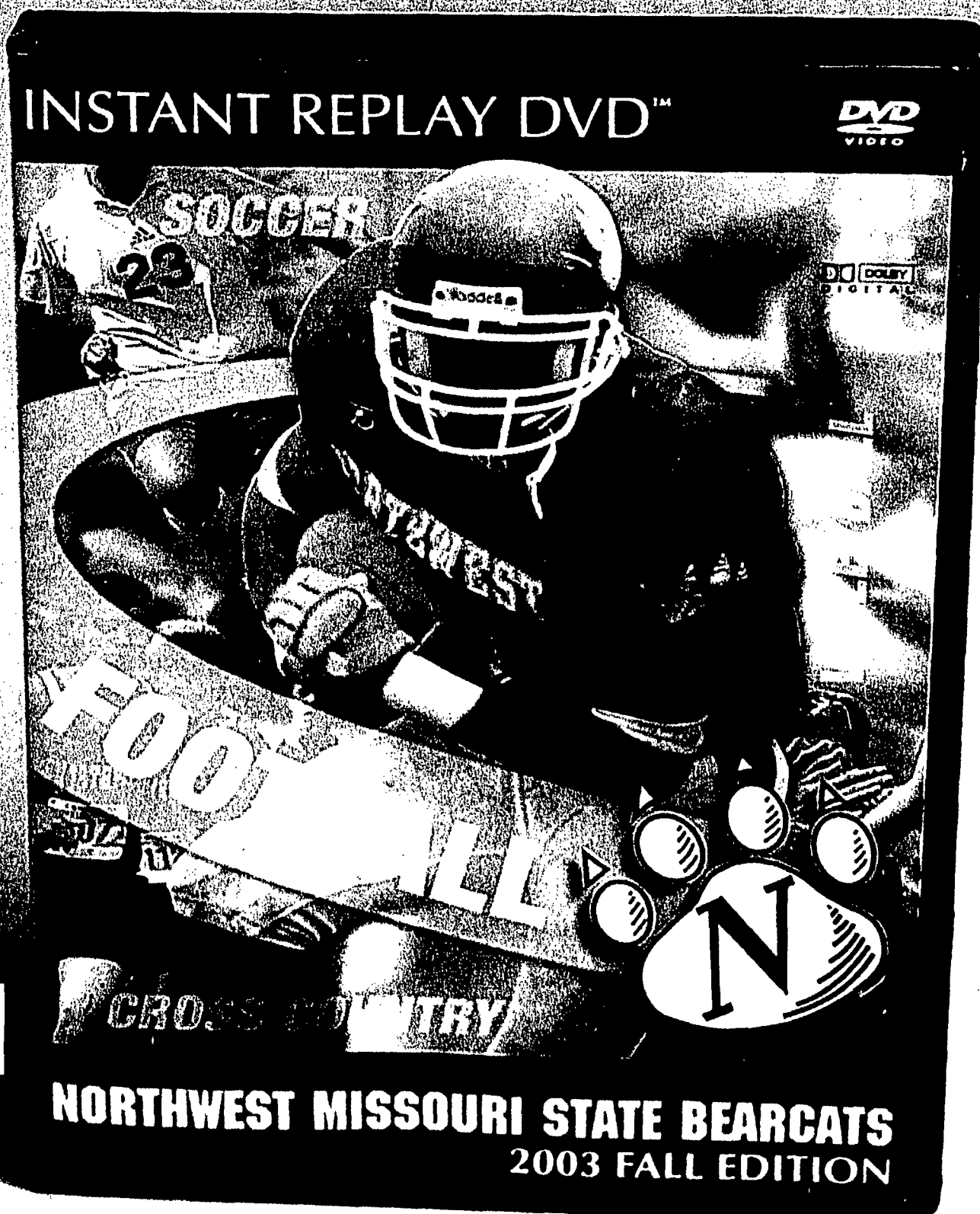
■ GAME TO WATCH: The tennis teams look to pick up another conference title this weekend in Topeka. The women upset, Washburn, the No. 1 team in the region and look to carry that success over into this weekend. The men will look out for Southwest Baptist, who is the best team in the conference right now.

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NORTHWEST
MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY

Shaw's heroic basket tops yearly sports list

The sophomore from San Juan, Trinidad, made her name known on a national stage placing fifth at the Indoor National Track and Field Championships in Boston.

In the final Samuel ran a 7.70 and finished in fifth place.

No. 5 - Women's basketball vs. Washburn University in the South Central Regional Tournament (65-64 loss) March 12, 2004

Although Northwest came out in the losing end, the game was in doubt until the final buzzer with the 'Cats having two final shots in the last 5.4 seconds.

Northwest came out smoking before Washburn took over and led going into halftime. The Lady Blues led by as many as 10 points in the second half, but Northwest refused to quit and cut the lead to less than three points numerous times.

Senior Sarah Vollertsen led the 'Cats with 11 points and 10 boards while senior Brooke Hogue and junior Ashley Poptanyez scored 10 points each.

No. 6 - Football vs. University of Minnesota-Mankato (23-16) September 13, 2003

"The Comeback" Cats reappeared to christen renovated Rickenbrode Stadium.

Northwest held an early 10-0 lead, but the Mavericks scored 16 straight points and Northwest trailed 16-10 with just three minutes remaining.

But, "The People's Choice" Josh Lamberson replaced junior quarterback T.J. Mandl to the applause of the Rickenbrode faithful and then led the 'Cats to victory.

He completed the tying touchdown to senior receiver Adam Orte with a little more than three minutes to go. The extra point was blocked, but the 'Cats' defense got the ball back for the offense and junior receiver Jamaica Recor did the rest.

The All-American caught the go-ahead touchdown falling out of the

And the winners are...

Male College Athlete- Kelvin Parker

Some athletes are remembered on campus for three or four years. That won't be the case for Kelvin Parker.

A decade from now, fans sitting in Bearcat Arena will continue to talk about the performances Parker put on in his No. 5 jersey.

"We have guys who are freshmen redshirts who five years from now are still going to be affected by Kelvin Parker," said head coach Steve Tappmeyer after the season. "I can't put into words how privileged I have been to coach him."

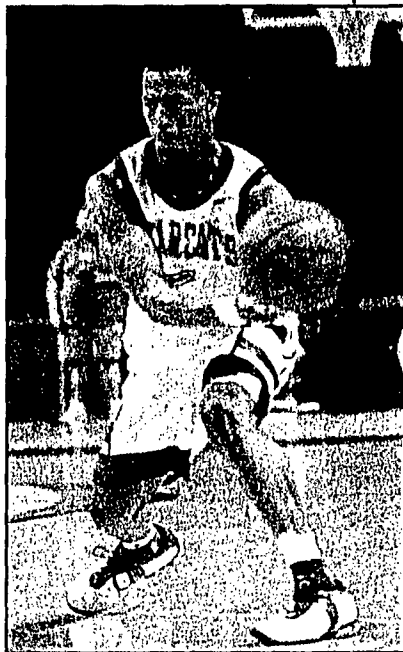
Parker could likely fill a trophy case with just the awards he won this season. Included on his list of accomplishments is being named to the Daktronics second-team All-American and second-team Division II Bulletin All-American.

In addition, the 5'8" point guard earned about every honor the MIAA gives out, including MVP of the MIAA and MVP of the Sonic/MIAA Championship tournament.

From this season, Parker likely will be remembered for his performance in the South-Central Regional tournament final.

When it seemed no one on the team could find the basket, Parker put the team on his shoulders like any good leader would.

Scoring 27 of the team's 62 points was an impressive feat, but it was when he didn't take the shot that will likely



Kelvin Parker

be remembered by his teammates the most. His assist to Jesse Shaw in the final seconds of the game against Drury University will just add to his legend at Northwest.

"He has just gotten better every year," Tappmeyer said. "That isn't always a given when you go to college. He has gotten better though and he has represented our program very well."

During his career, Parker won more than 100 games, a feat few college basketball players at any level can say they've accomplished.

Freshman Male- Corey Paetznick

Corey Paetznick wasn't even going to kick this year. It seemed the Northwest football team already had their kicker in sophomore Jamie Martin.

Then he got his big break at Emporia State.

With the kicking struggling, head football coach Mel Tjeerdma turned to the true freshman.

"He kicked extremely well under pressure and did everything we asked him to do," Tjeerdma said.

The freshman kicked his first three field goals to help the Bearcats get a huge conference win over the Hornets, 16-13. The following week he knocked four field goals through the uprights including a 47- and a 46-yarder, — the two longest field goals of his career — as the 'Cats blew out Missouri Southern.

Paetznick, who graduated from Dowling High School in Des Moines, Iowa, would have probably have redshirted this past season, part of which was due to a leg injury. However, the place kicker rebounded and went on to kick 12 field goals in just six games, including two in the season finale against Pittsburg State.

Tjeerdma said that he is looking forward to having Paetznick on the squad for the upcoming years.

"He is our kicker," Tjeerdma said. "I'm excited to have him back for three more years. I think that as good as he performed this year, he feels like he can perform better next year, and we do too. We know he is going to put in the work and the effort to be the very best he can be. That will be an integral part of our football team again next year."

- JEROME BOETTCHER

Vollertsen helps lead 'Cats' turnaround

Perhaps the biggest story of the past school year was the turnaround of the women's basketball team.

One of the driving factors behind that was senior center Sarah Vollertsen.

As a team captain, Vollertsen helped lead the Bearcats to their first-ever MIAA postseason tournament title.

While that was a major accomplishment for this year's squad, maybe the biggest accomplishment is what the program has turned into.

During Vollertsen's three years at Northwest, the 'Cats went from the MIAA's do-or-die to one of the premier programs in the conference.

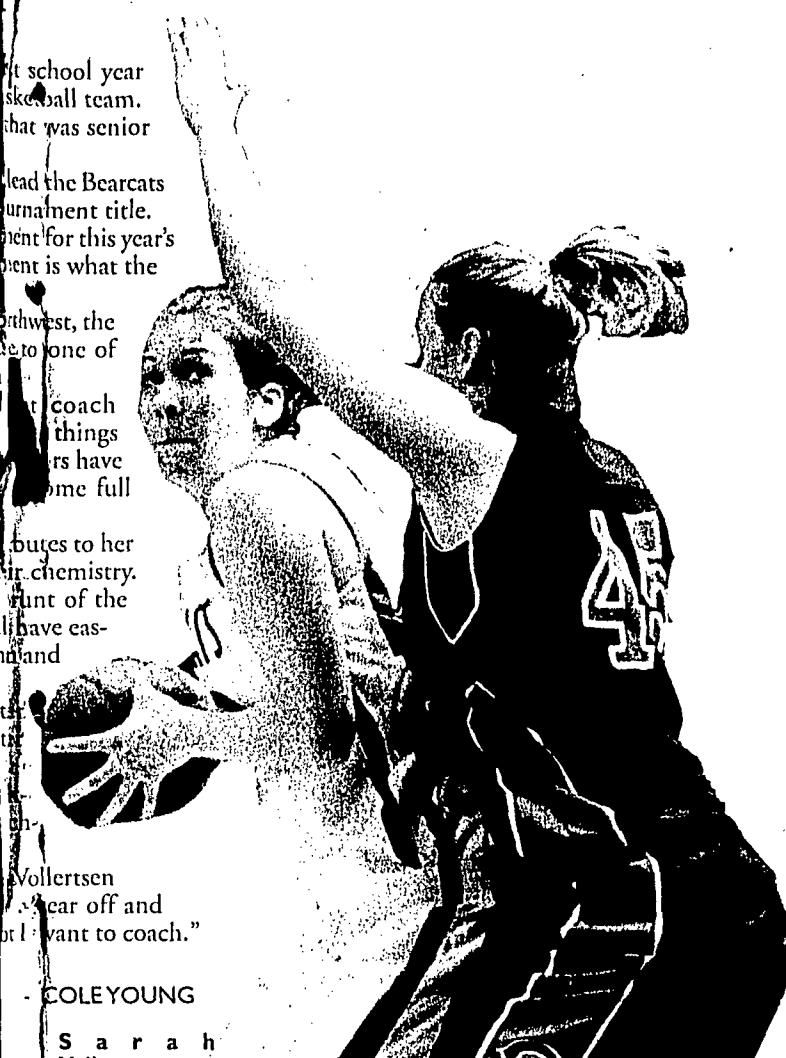
"The turnaround says a lot about Coach Steinmeyer to stick with us and let us things around," Vollertsen said. "Four of the things have been here all four years and saw the team full circle."

One of the key things Vollertsen brings to her and the rest of the team's success is her chemistry. While Vollertsen seemed to earn the trust of the individual honors, many of them could have easily gone to fellow seniors Erica Hatterman and Jane Chalmers.

"I couldn't have asked for a better group of girls to play with and a better university to play at," Vollertsen said.

Whether or not Vollertsen plans on being her success on the court into a coaching role is undecided.

"Things are still up in the air," said Vollertsen of her future plans. "I'm going to take a year off and just work before I decide whether or not I want to coach."



Sarah Vollertsen

Freshman Female- Mackenzie Heston

As she stepped onto the volleyball court to be christened a Bearcat, Mackenzie Heston felt intimidation.

"It was intimidating because there were a lot more competitive girls and the girls were a lot bigger," Heston said.

Heston said she worked through the intimidation and after awhile it wasn't bad at all. This was obvious as she dominated the court as the best freshman player this season.

As a freshman, Heston faced charges from the game she knew last year at Ankeny High School in Ankeny, Iowa. She was now responsible for playing an integral part of a team in need of some

improvements.

One event this year that helped motivate her to accomplish these goals was the fact that her roommate and best friend tore her ACL.

"When she did that it put a damper on things," Heston said. "But it made me work even harder."

Heston achieved her goals this year but doesn't plan on stopping there. She hopes to continue this growing process during her remaining years.

"My goal is to help turn the program around and win a National Championship," Heston said.

Although this year's record wasn't good enough to make it to the National Tournament, Heston still believes she made the

right decision in coming to Northwest.

"I'm still very glad I came here," Heston said. "We have the best team and I've made a ton of friends."

Heston said the relationship she's gained with her teammates extends far beyond the court. She said it all began the first two full weeks of practice when they spent every day together.

"Now, we all hang out outside of the game," Heston said. "They're pretty much the only people I hang out with."

Heston has also treasured the relationship she has with her coaches. She said the personal level of attention and friendship is one difference from high school that she appreciates.

- STEPHANIE SUCKOW

High School female- Hillary Reynolds

Hillary Reynolds' voice is heard in other ways than most leaders.

"She's a very quiet leader—she leads by example," said Maryville head softball coach Kathy Blackney, who has coached Reynolds all four years of high school. "A lot of people think she's not working hard, maybe sometimes because she doesn't look like it. But she is always giving a hundred percent at everything she does whether she looks like it or not. She's a really neat person."

Reynolds is not only an All-District softball player but she also competes in basketball and track.

"She played quite a bit, over 80 games in the last 3 years," head girls' basketball coach Randy Cook said. "She's a difference maker."

Because of her leadership and athletics, *The Missourian* is naming Reynolds the High School Girls' Athlete of the Year.

Reynolds played center field for the Spoofohounds, who were the MEC Co-Conference Champions and district runner-up. She was not only named All-District and All-Conference, but she was also named second team All-State. She was the leadoff batter for the 'Hounds, Blackney said she will be missed.

"She has been such a staple in centerfield for four years, it will leave quite a hole," Blackney said. "Wow, it will be one that's really hard to fill."

Along with being a point guard for the basketball team she also runs track. She is currently a member of the 4x100, 4x200 and 4x400 relay teams and participates in the long jump. Last week at the Maryville Invitational she helped her team finish first in the 4x200 relay team, and now she hopes the team can make it to at least sectionals.

Of all the coaches she has had, Reynolds says that Coach Randy Cook has probably had the biggest influence on her.

"(Blackney's) daughter has been one of my best friends since I've been in first grade, so I know her from a different standpoint than being my coach, so I just don't categorize (her) as my coach," Reynolds said. "I've learned a lot from (Cook about) respect and working hard and everything." So he's probably had the most impact on her.

- JEROME BOETTCHER

High School coach- Mike Kuwitzky

For nearly two decades, a Nebraska native has been leading the Maryville High School boys' basketball team to success.

Mike Kuwitzky grew up in Lincoln, Neb., and started playing basketball in the heart of Big Red country when he was in second grade.

"It was just something that I started at an early age at my church," Kuwitzky said. Mike played many other sports during the offseason, but he was always drawn back to basketball.

"Even though I played football, basketball and baseball most of the time, I loved basketball the most," he said.

Kuwitzky continued to play competitively all the way through high school and later played intramurals in college.

"The coach that I went on to play for in high school had built up a reputation that was well-known," he said. "So every kid that grew up in Northeast Lincoln wanted to play for the Northeast Rockets because of the success that they had always had."

At that culmination of his high school career, Kuwitzky played for a team that won a state championship.

"Growing up, my number one goal was to play for Coach Johnson and win a state championship," he said. "Luckily my dream came true because I played on a state championship team in high school and I knew then that I wanted to continue with it. I went to college and I wanted to continue to coach it and be around the game."

Before bringing his basketball knowledge to The 'Ville, Kuwitzky was a social studies teacher and an assistant coach in Beatrice, Neb.

In his 18 years in Spoofohound country, Kuwitzky has led several teams into postseason play.

"We've had three teams make it all the way to the final four," Kuwitzky said. "The '94 team finished fourth in state, the '95 team finished second and this year's team finished second."

Kuwitzky gives credit to the hard work and dedication that players and parents have put in over the years.

Sharing the game with students and seeing them excel is one of the biggest rewards of coaching, according to Kuwitzky.

"It's very gratifying to see a team improve, see a team compete, representing your school and your community well," he said. "I try to make a difference with the kids to help them be as successful as they can be."

- ANDY TIMKO



Josh Wilmes

sophomore year during the football season.

Though he spent the year on the bench, it didn't keep him from rebuilding his knee and working on his basketball skills.

"We had a pretty good class (that year)," Wilmes said. "I was trying to rebuild my knee."

Wilmes is also the shortstop on the baseball team and has a batting average of around .400. He is in his third year of playing on the baseball team.

Wilmes currently plays safety for the 'Hounds and is not sure whether or not he will play quarterback next year. He said he would like to but that he would do what was "good for the team."

As for the upcoming basketball season, Wilmes hopes that the team does just as well and thinks that they are the ones to knock off next year.

"Hopefully we can have the same success," Wilmes said. "It will be pretty weird being a senior."

- JEROME BOETTCHER

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Summer Cradick
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Brad Schwarz

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The New Direction

Megan Ledgerwood & Joshua Sharp

Megan is a sophomore from Graham, Mo., majoring in business management with a minor in coaching. She is the daughter of Ciecl and Rosemary Ledgerwood. Joshua is from Maitland, Mo., and is the son of Bill and Dee Wallace. He is employed at Kawasaki Motors. Megan and Joshua will be married Oct. 16, 2004 in Graham. They will honeymoon in Hawaii. After the honeymoon they will be living in Maitland, Mo.



Penny Estabrook & Jeffery Webb

Penny is a senior from Breckenridge, Mo., majoring in public relations. She is the daughter of Ed and Brenda Estabrook. Jeff is a farmer from Braymer, Mo., and is

the son of Dwain Webb and Sandy Davies. Penny and Jeff will be married Aug. 28, 2004 at the United Methodist Church in Hamilton, Mo. After the wedding they will live in Braymer.

Laci Ann Fiali & Shawn Ades

Laci is a senior speech communication and sociology major from Geneva, Neb. She is the daughter of Connie Fiali. She is employed at Applebee's and after graduation will continue working at Applebee's and attend graduate school at Kansas State University. She has been involved with the following activities: treasurer and social chair for Sigma Alpha Iota, the Northwest speech and debate secretary, historian and vice president, and the Phi Eta Sigma National Honor Society vice president, president and senior advisor. Shawn is in graduate school for agriculture education, from Lake City, Iowa. He is the

son of Bruce and Madonna Ades. He is employed at Northwest and Orscheln's and after graduation he will be teaching. He has been involved with Phi Sigma Kappa, homecoming chair and vice president, Alpha Tau Alpha and CARE. Laci and Shawn will be married June 5, 2004 in Geneva, Neb. After the wedding they will live in Manhattan, Kan.

Sarah Dittman & Jordan Hurst

Sarah is a senior from Lee's Summit, Mo., majoring in journalism. She is the daughter of Jay and Terry Dittmann. Sarah is a Resident Assistant in Perrin Hall. Jordan is a senior broadcasting major from Lee's Summit, Mo. He is the son of Dan and Marcia Hurst and is employed at KQ2 in St. Joseph, Mo., and is a Resident Assistant in Hudson Hall. Sarah and Jordan will be married June 4, 2004 at Longview Mansion in Lee's Summit.



Amy Schmitt & Mike Seufert

Amy is a junior elementary education major from Atlantic, Iowa. She is employed by Owens Library and Maryville Middle School and is a member of S-MSTA as well as a Title I tutor at Maryville Middle School. Amy is the daughter of Jeff and Lisa Schmitt. Mike is a senior middle school education major with an emphasis in social sciences and is also from Atlantic, Iowa. He is also a member of S-MSTA and a Title I tutor at Maryville Middle School. Mike is also a marathon runner. Amy

and Mike will be married July 31, 2004 in Atlantic, Iowa. They will honeymoon in Florida. After the wedding, Mike will teach middle school and Amy will complete her degree at Northwest. The couple will reside where they find teaching jobs.

Sarah Winecoff & William Essington

Sarah is a senior at Northwest majoring in marketing and business management. She is the president of Tau Phi Upsilon and will graduate this May. Sarah is from Omaha, Neb., and is the daughter of Molly and Randy Winecoff. William is an assistant manager at Hy-Vee in Omaha, Neb. He is the son of Dianna and Robert Essington. Sarah and William will be married Oct. 2, 2004 in Omaha, Neb. They will spend their honeymoon in New York City. Sarah and William plan to reside in Omaha, Neb.



Valerie Lemke & Adam Hunt

Valerie is a senior marketing and business management major from Walton, Neb. She is the daughter of Mark and Bonnie Lemke. She is employed at the Northwest University Advancement office. After graduation she will be employed at Wells Fargo Financial. She is the Omicron Delta Kappa vice president of administration and is involved with Peer Education and the Mortar Board. Adam is a senior interactive digital media major from Smithville, Mo. He is the son of Arnold and Patti Hunt. He is employed at the Northwest University Advancement office and is currently seeking employment. He is a member of Tau Kappa Epsilon. Valerie and Adam will be married on Aug. 7, 2004 in Maryville, Mo., at the First-United Methodist Church. After the wedding they will reside in Kansas City.

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Carla Pollard & Jeff Hagan

Carla is a senior advertising major from Council Bluffs, Iowa. She is a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha and is currently employed at Hardee's in Maryville. Carla is the daughter of Vinnell Ray. Jeff is a senior broadcasting major with a business minor from Savannah, Mo. He is the President of Phi Delta Theta fraternity and involved with KZLX. He is currently employed at Country Kitchen in Maryville. Jeff is the son of Jim and Nancy Hagan.

Carla and Jeff will be married May 14, 2005 in Council Bluffs, Iowa. They will honeymoon in either Hawaii, Las Vegas or Florida. After graduation they will live in either Omaha, Neb., Kansas City, or Denver, Colo. Carla will be working somewhere that pertains to her major and Jeff will be working at a radio station.

Betsy Lee & Matt Frye

Betsy is a senior journalism major from Lawrence, Kan. She is currently employed by Student Publications and is involved in track and field and cross country. Betsy is the daughter of Steve and Mary Lee. Matt is a junior journalism major from Blair, Neb. He is currently employed by the *St. Joseph News-Press*. Matt is the son of Bob and Teresa Frye. Betsy and Matt will be married June 2005 in Lawrence, Kan.



Shelley Baur & Joshua Toncin

Shelley is a junior elementary education major from Owensville, Mo. She is currently employed at Hardee's. She is a member of the symphonic band and RHA. Shelley is the daughter of Alma Baur. Joshua is from Maryville,

Mo., and is currently employed by Northwest. Joshua is the son of Gary and Denise Troncin. Shelley and Joshua will be married July 23, 2005 in Owensville, Mo. They will honeymoon in Hawaii and the Bahamas. After graduation Shelley will be working for the Boone County School District. Shelley and Joshua will live in Columbia, Mo.



Kara Swink & John Petrovic

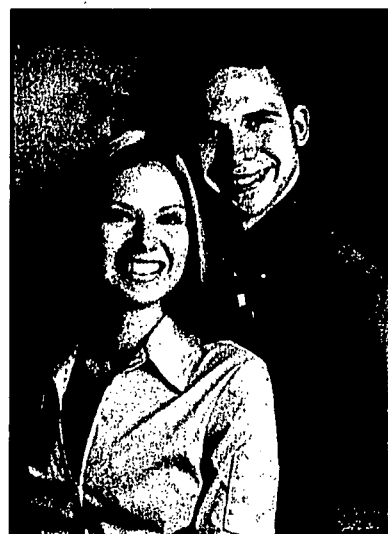
Kara is a junior journalism major from Drexel, Mo. She is employed by the *Tower Yearbook* as managing editor. She is a member of the Society of Professional Journalists, and served as an intern at the *Northwest Alumni Magazine*. Kara is the daughter of Arnold and Sherry Swink. John graduated from Northwest

in December 2001 with a degree in journalism. While at Northwest he was the photography director for *The Northwest Missourian*, a *Tower Yearbook* staffer, and a *Heartland View* staffer. John is from Kansas City and is the son of Alex Petrovic and Marilyn Brohm. He currently works at *The Daily Union* in Junction City, Kan. Kara and John will be married June 4, 2005 in Kansas City. They plan to honeymoon somewhere hot with a beach.

Enza Solano & Steve Ketcham

Enza is a graduate from Northwest where she majored in marketing and management. She is from Kansas City. She was a member of Alpha Sigma Alpha, Student Senate and Panhellenic Council. Enza is the daughter of Gaetano Solano and Lena Solano. Steve is a senior public relations major from Kansas City. He is currently employed at Circuit City and 96.5 The Buzz. He is a member of Sigma Phi Epsilon, where he is vice president of recruitment and vice president of communications, and KZLX 106.7. Steve is the son of Ernie and Kitty

Ketcham. Enza and Steve will be married July 31, 2004 in Kansas City. After graduation, they will live in North Kansas City and Steve will be working for 96.5 The Buzz.



Sara Rice & Travis Woodward

Sara is a senior political science major from Maryville, Mo. She is currently employed as the assistant manager at Movie Magic. She is a four-year member of the Bearcat Steppers, a member of Phi Mu sorority and the Maryville Festival of the Arts Public Relations co-chair. Sara is the daughter of Lewis and Kathy Rice. Travis is from Maryville, Mo. He is the son of Bruce Woodward and Cheryl Farmer. Travis is currently the manager of Pagliai's

Pizza here in Maryville. Sara and Travis will be married July 3, 2004 at the Robertson Crist Nature Park in Maryville. They will honeymoon in the Cayman Islands-Grand Cayman. After graduation, Sara will work for Congressman Sam Graves re-election campaign and Travis will be working as the assistant manager of Foot Locker and living in Kansas City.

Amanda Gordon & Loyd Heaton III

Amanda is a child development major from Tinley Park, Ill. She is involved in church, school activities and the walk-a-thon. Loyd is an art education major from Chillicothe, Mo. He is involved in cross country, track and field, Boy Scouts of America and the Art Club. He is the son of Loyd Heaton Jr. and Betty Don Heaton. Amanda and Loyd will be married December 2006. After graduation Amanda will work in school child development and Loyd will be a high school art teacher.

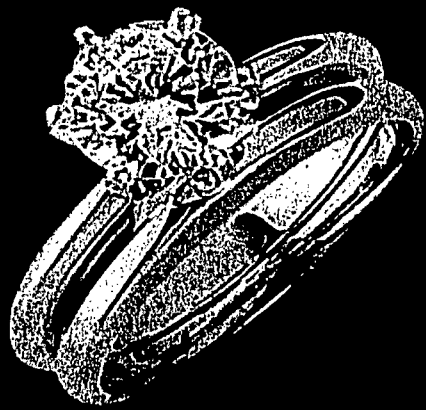
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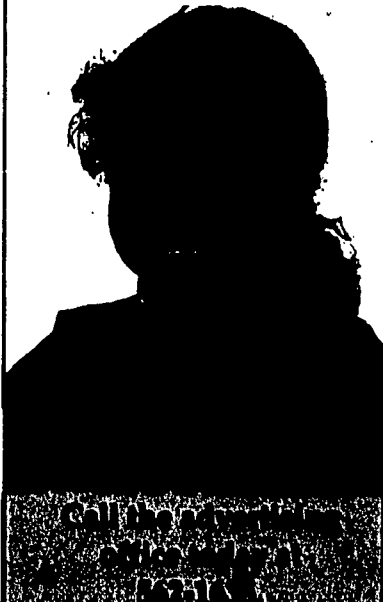
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Here's to a rollercoaster trimester

Yawn...
I must say, all of this strolling is really wearing me out. And it seems that I'm not the only one on campus who's ready for this semester to end. Just ask the next person you see how he or she is doing and there's about a 90 percent chance the answer will be, "Tired."

The Northwest campus has been struck by an exhaustion epidemic. Somebody bring in caffeine shots! It's amazing that we haven't yet formed lines for prescriptions of frappuccino and No-Doz. Thank goodness caffeine is one drug that hasn't been outlawed. A black market for that product would form in a jiffy.

In the midst of this rush to write term papers that we've procrastinated on all semester (procrastinate? *moi?*) and to study for the five or six finals we each have to take next week, it's no wonder we're all walking around like zombies. All-nighters are becoming more frequent and some of us have forgotten what the word "sleep" even means.

Nevertheless, even as we run around like chickens with our heads cut off, it's nice to take a moment to reflect upon this past school year. It has become almost cliché to call any given year a "rollercoaster year," but as one of my high school classmates once said, clichés are the dandelions



THE STROLLER

of the English language and sometimes they say it best.

This school year has certainly had its share of ups and downs. The Siberian dance company in September: up. Parking lot renovations: down. The MIAA title in basketball: up. The bitter cold and ice we had for a couple weeks this winter: down. Drag show: up. CatPAWS: down. The ongoing UM merger deliberations: depends on your perspective. Two student suicides since the beginning of spring break: a complete gut-wrenching loop.

While we do still have a few days left and anything could happen, the ride is coming to an end.

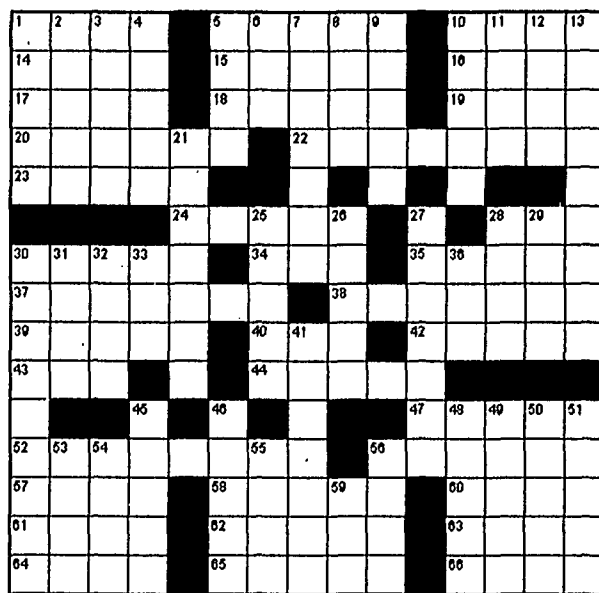
But like the little kid at the carnival, most of us will be back in August for yet another round. And with a little luck, we might even get some cotton candy (i.e. better food in the Union).

Or maybe a clown? (Hey, it could happen) And don't forget, 2005 marks the centennial for Northwest. Quite frankly, I would like to see that birthday celebrated with the name Northwest Missouri State University still intact...but if the merger happens, it happens. Many of us like the idea of keeping this school independent of the University of Missouri system, if only to identify ourselves as such. But no matter what this institution's name is, the centennial will certainly make for an exciting, albeit hectic, year here in Maryville. It is just as important to look forward as it is to reflect backward.

So until next year, I plan to stick my strolling feet up on the table and lean back in my chair and relax. My thanks to the *Missourian* for putting up with me this last half of the semester, and a special thanks to...yawn...uh...*~~~~~*

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

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Across

1. Potato
5. Basic
10. Verge
14. Melody
15. Extreme
16. Heath
17. Female given name
18. Narrow openings
19. Spanish duke
20. Close at hand
22. Inflammation
23. Republic in E Africa
24. Provoke
28. Exclamation of contempt
30. Author's insertion mark

Down

34. High points
35. Long-continued practice
37. Make odorous
38. Republic on the E coast of Africa
39. Russian leaders
40. Fem. pronoun
42. Turn upside down
43. Under-standing
44. Hire cars
47. Gardening tool
52. Trade
56. Pretended
57. Egg cell
58. Seaport in

the Crimea

60. Fall short
61. Flat tableland with steep edges
62. Negatively charged ion
63. Enclosure
64. British WW2 machine gun
65. Storage center
66. Decays

6. Entirely
7. Holdup
8. Showily imitative of art
9. Lethal fever
10. Computer letter
11. Dunce
12. Desert in E Asia
13. Part of a tape recorder
21. Ceremonial immersion in water
25. Search
26. West Vermont town
27. Soils
28. Bundle
29. Against
30. Comb of a cock
31. Ax-like tool
32. Horse of mixed color
33. Sin
36. Plant juice
41. Deformed lip
45. Capital of Jordan
46. Wood nymph
48. Postpone
49. Bird droppings
50. Decree
51. Tumbles
53. Above
54. Think
55. Walking stick
56. Breathe hard
59. Also

See answers below

on the edge

Facts about soldiers:

■ A soldier would wear a "havelock" on his head in the desert. It's a light cloth covering, attached to a military cap that protects the back of a soldier's neck from the sun. It was named for Sir Henry Havelock, a British officer serving in England.

■ In feudal Japan, the Imperial Army had special soldiers who only duty counted the number of severed heads after each battle.

■ The expression "the whole nine yards" comes from World War II aircraft whose ammunition belts were 27 feet long. When a soldier used his entire ammo belt on a target, he exhausted "the whole nine yards."

■ In World War cost the Allies about \$225,000 to kill one enemy soldier.

Uselessknowledge.com

Upcoming Concerts

Maryville
Kansas City
Des Moines
Omaha

- Apr. 22 Steve Ewing/Lojic The Pub
- April 23 Air Uptown Theatre
- Apr. 23 Dennis DeYoung Midland Theatre
- Apr. 22 Ben Folds Drake University
- Apr. 23 John Prine Civic Center
- Apr. 27 Blusom Ranch Bowl
- Apr. 29 Limbeck Ranch Bowl

- Apr. 23 Ryan Patrick Imming The Pub
- Apr. 23 Double Trouble Ameristar Hotel & Casino
- Apr. 26 Fear Factory Kansas City Aud. Arena
- Apr. 24 Candye Kane Blues on Grand
- Apr. 29 Cory Dale Java Joe's
- Apr. 24 Jupiter Sunrise Ranch Bowl
- Apr. 29 Limbeck Ranch Bowl

For more information on upcoming events check out www.pollstar.com

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Proceeds to Furnish New Special Care Unit

As part of the hospital's current construction, a Special Care Unit is being re-established. The estimated cost to furnish the Unit is \$84,000. The Golf Committee selected the Special Care Unit to receive this year's proceeds due to its importance to the hospital and community, and has rededicated its efforts to raise funds necessary for the project.

710664

For more information or to register please call:
(660) 562-7933

St. Francis Hospital Foundation
2016 South Main Street
Maryville, MO 64468

Beemer's Muffler Center

-LLC-

Congratulations on a great year!

Have a good summer and hope to

see you next year!

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